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ECHO

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Tuesday, December 21, 2010



Parishoners flock to Essonville Church

Elsie Lewis, organist, plays a classic at the Christmas carol service at the Essonville Historic Church on Sunday, Dec. 19. The event was MCed by Paul Way. See page 30 for more on the annual seasonal event just outside Wilberforce.

Darren Lum
Echo staff

Women tip county's political scales

Females now outnumber males on council

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

For Suzanne Partridge it's been four years in the making.

On Dec. 14, Partridge was unanimously voted deputy-reeve of Highlands East by fellow council members and sworn in to county council office that same day.

In 2006, the Highlands East councillor missed the opportunity to become deputy-reeve of the municipality by one vote.

At the time fellow councillor Gary Stoughton didn't cast his vote for Partridge because he believed the position "is a man's job."

With the addition of Partridge, for the first time in history the county of Haliburton has more female representation than male on council with five of the eight spots held by a woman, a rarity in the landscape of municipal politics.

For Partridge it was a significant victory, long overdue.

"I'm excited about embarking on a new

see 'INTEREST' page 4

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The Amazing Kreskin coming to Haliburton

The Haliburton and District Lions are excited to be given the opportunity to bring The Amazing Kreskin to Haliburton. One special performance for the residents of Haliburton will be held on Friday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

Kreskin is the world's foremost mental-

ist and will astound you with his mind-boggling feats of extra-sensory perception. This unique opportunity comes rarely, so don't miss the chance to be part of the experience.

Tickets are only \$30 and will go quickly, so don't delay. What a great Christmas gift or stocking stuffer this would make!

The proceeds from this performance will help your Haliburton Lions fulfill their commitment to provide a cancer care facility at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre. Local Lions Clubs have teamed with the Lions in neighbouring areas to raise funds

for this worthy and much-needed cause.

Tickets are available at Cranberry Cottage in Haliburton and Minden Pharmasave.

For more information go to www.amazingkreskin.com or call Jim Frost at 457-4031.

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The Highlands Weekender
The only weekly publication delivered FREE to 7,000 households in Haliburton County

December 23, 2010

Icelandic authors are hot

Bessie's Books
and other things
Bessie Sullivan
County Librarian

Icelandic Author Steig Larsson has received tremendous international success with his *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* series. These titles are in very high demand at the library, so if you are eagerly awaiting your chance to borrow a copy, or if you have already read Larsson's entire catalogue and are interested in something with a similar feel, I feature the following titles:
The Girl On The Train by Lisa Fiedler who, while grappling with his wife's slow emergence from a coma, is confronted by a series of local deaths being attributed to usual breeding



Free in your mailbox on Thursday...

This week's Weekender:

- Bright and shining lights from within
- Six principles of tax-smart investing
- Mike Rahme answers leaky basement questions
- Cards scores, bowling scores

Plus Sudoku, crossword, classifieds and coming events.



Roadside Christmas tree decorator mystery is solved.

A little Christmas in the forest

Have you noticed several happy Christmas trees along the side of the roads in Haliburton?

Wondered who took the effort to decorate them all with cheery baubles?

Local Christmas elf Jimmie Stewart has been travelling the county dressing up those trees that need a holiday lift.

Stewart estimates he's done 15 trees – four on Highway 118 and others sprinkled throughout the Highlands.

"It's just to spread a little joy," Stewart told the *Echo*.



Jimmie Stewart decorated this roadside tree. /Submitted photo

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Fearrey to serve as warden for 10th time

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

For the 10th time in a political career spanning nearly 40 years, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey is warden of Haliburton County.

Outgoing warden and Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton moved that Fearrey be the next warden during the new county council's inauguration ceremony on Dec. 14, a motion that was seconded by Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis, who called Fearrey the "senior statesman of municipal politics in Haliburton County."

With no other nominations, Fearrey became warden by acclamation.

"You know how I like this robe," Fearrey quipped as Burton helped him don the ceremonial warden's garment, joking that he thought Burton was going to wear it out.

Burton has served the past two years as county warden.

Continuing economic instability means difficult times ahead for the new council, Fearrey said.

"Things are not the same as they were," he said, adding we now live in a world where municipalities rely heavily on provincial and federal stimulus funding, some of which is going to dry up in 2011. "I think we're in for a bit of a tough time for a while. We need to be a team like we've never been a team before."

Fearrey emphasized the importance of councillors maintaining good relationships with one another. "We can't be doing end runs on each other," he said. "If we do, it



Chad Ingram Echo staff

The new county council is, from left, Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid, Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, Algonquin Highlands Deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen, Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton, Highlands East Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge and Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch.

will surface."

First sitting on county council in 1973, Fearrey noted there have been significant changes since, not the least of which is that on the new county council, women outnumber the men five to three.

"Look at the ladies at the table," he said. "Isn't that good?"

Joining Fearrey, Davis and Burton on

council are Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid and Deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt and Deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen and Highlands East Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge.

MPP Rick Johnson was in attendance and gave short speech where he congratulated council members, saying they'd obviously earned the trust of their communities.

"Once you lose trust in your community, it's very hard to hold office," Johnson said.

"It's an election year in the province, Rick, and we'll have our hand out," Fearrey told Johnson later in meeting.

At council's first regular meeting Dec. 15, department heads gave councillors overviews of their departments and councillors were assigned to committees.

Danielsen, Burton, Fearrey and Reid will sit on the roads committee; Davis, Moffatt, Murdoch and Partridge will sit on the EMS committee; Moffatt, Partridge and Reid will sit on the finance and correspondence committee; Danielsen, Burton, Fearrey and Murdoch will sit on the personnel committee; Burton, Fearrey, Moffatt and Reid will sit on the economic development committee; Danielsen, Davis, Murdoch and Partridge will sit on the library board and the joint accessibility committee.

David Bishop was appointed to the board for Regional Tourism Organization 11; Burton will sit on the health unit board as well as the Point in Time board; Moffatt, Davis and Reid will join the City of Kawartha Lakes-County of Haliburton Joint Housing and Social Services Committee; Davis will sit on the board for the Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Housing Corporation; Danielsen will join the Haliburton Highlands Health Professionals Recruitment Committee; and Fearrey will sit on the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the municipal advisory committee for the Algonquin land claim.

Partridge new deputy-reeve of Highlands East

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Dec. 14 meeting of Highlands East council.

Highlands East will have a female representative serving on county council after it was decided Ward 2 Councillor Suzanne Partridge would serve as the municipality's deputy-reeve.

The meeting followed an official inauguration ceremony held at 11 a.m. at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce where members of council were officially sworn into office.

Ward 4 Councillor Joan Barton nominated Partridge for the position.

"Suzanne has the experience, the expertise and the charm to be our deputy-reeve," said Barton.

Barton outlined Partridge's previous council experience and her record of teamwork and stability as reasons she should fulfill the position.

Ward 3 Councillor Cecil Ryall seconded the nomination "with great honour and privilege."

With no other nominations brought forward Partridge was unanimously voted to the position.

"Thank you for those words," said Partridge with a smile. "I'm speechless."

A resolution to appoint Partridge as the municipality's deputy-reeve was passed.

"I look forward to working with you at the county table," said Reeve Dave Burton.

"As do I Dave, thank you," said Partridge.

Bridge repaired

A bridge located at McCue Creek on the IB & O rail trail has been extensively repaired thanks to the Paudash Trail Blazers.

The snowmobile club completed repairs on the bridge after it had been damaged due to extensive use.

Councillors agreed the ATV association and the Enduro bike association would be contacted and asked to help reimburse the costs the Paudash Trail Blazers expended.



Members of Highlands East council. Back row from left, Ward 1 Councillor Steven Kauffeldt and Ward 3 Councillor Cecil Ryall. Front row from left, Ward 2 Councillor and Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge, Reeve Dave Burton and Ward 4 Councillor Joan Barton. Angelica Blenich Echo Staff

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'Interest in politics by females is greater than it ever has been': Fearrey

from page 1

adventure," she said of becoming deputy-reeve.

Partridge served as reeve of Cardiff township prior to amalgamation in 2001, making this her second time on county council.

"I just think it's so exciting that in the 13 years that I've been involved a woman was the exception and now to be the majority is a wonderful reflection on our society," said Partridge. "Regardless of what sex you are you have the same opportunity."

"This is the sort of thing that people like my mother had worked for all their lives. My mother and my grandmother and the matriarchs of our society. It's such an honour to be able to carry their dreams forward."

Partridge, who describes herself as both a feminist and environmentalist, hopes to bring an open mind and sense of pragmatism to county council.

After recently being elected reeve of Minden Hills, Barb Reid will be sitting at the county council table for the first time.

The municipality of Minden Hills is currently being represented by a female majority, with five women sitting on council and two serving as reeve and deputy-reeve.

"I think it really is a reflection that as far as the electorate is concerned they're voting for who they feel they want in the job," said Reid.

With the balance of power at the county level weighing in favour of women, Reid doesn't believe future decisions will reflect this change.

"I don't really think the decision making happens whether it's a man or woman, I think it depends on the individual regardless of their gender. Both men and women can make good decisions and poor decisions," said Reid.

Dysart Reeve and recently appointed Haliburton County Warden Murray Fearrey echoes Reid's sentiments.

"I don't see a difference whether there are men or women there," said Fearrey in regards to politicians serving on county council. "They are individuals who have a responsibility."

"The interest in politics by females is greater than it ever

has been. These people put their name forward and they got elected."

Fearrey has spent close to 40 years in politics. He is currently serving his 10th term as warden of the county.

Having seen his share of councillors come and go. Fearrey also doesn't believe gender will affect the decisions made in the upcoming years.

"If it affects decisions it's wrong. Decisions should be based on facts and what's right for the people and it shouldn't matter what your gender is," said Fearrey.

Elva Bates has lived her entire life, all 80 years, in Haliburton County.

A former reeve of Glamorgan township, this is the first time Bates has witnessed more female politicians than males representing the county.

The shift in power, said Bates, is merely a reflection of the recent election results.

"Certainly women are more involved in politics than they used to be, it's quite a change for Haliburton County but that's what the public voted for."

Bates knows firsthand the challenges that come with serving the county of Haliburton, regardless of your gender.

"I'm hoping that they will take direction from the more experienced councillors," said Bates of those sitting on county council for the first time. "I know that when I first attended county council it was quite a change for me, especially having come from a small municipality."

Haliburton County is ahead of the trend in terms of electing a fair gender representation at the municipal level.

Nancy Peckford is the executive director of Equal Voice, a not-for-profit multi-partisan organization dedicated to promoting the election of more women into all levels of government.

According to Peckford, females are underrepresented at all levels of government with the average representation of women at the municipal level coming in at 23 per cent, according to a statistic provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

"That stat may have changed with the recent election results but I wouldn't say by a lot," said

Peckford. "Even though there's this perception that women at the municipal level tend to get more involved, the percentages don't reflect that."

According to Peckford, Canada ranks 51st globally in terms of equal political representation, a number that she believes leaves room for much improvement.

"We should really be in the top 10," said Peckford of Canada's ranking. "Our UN ranking for quality of life is in the top 10 or 20. We're fairing very poorly [for political representation]."

"In terms of what happened in Haliburton there are signs of slow progress, but it's incremental and not overwhelming."

Peckford would not only like to see more females elected but younger women as well, as she believes they are representative of the future generation.

Formed 10 years ago, Equal Voice ultimately wants to change the face of Canadian politics.

"These are democratic institutions and we believe that women should have equal opportunity to participate in them. The policies and decisions that are made deeply impact women and men. As a consequence of more women being involved we believe we'll have a stronger democracy and that's good for everyone in terms of accountability."

Recently elected to her fifth term as a Toronto city councillor, Pam McConnell sits on the board of directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and chairs the FCM's standing committee on increasing women's participation in municipal Government.

Part of the committee's mandate, said McConnell, is ensuring there are both male and female voices at the table.

"One of the things that we're talking about is gender balance," said McConnell. "The United Nations requires a 30 per cent voice in order to have a gender balance. In other words if there isn't 30 per cent at the table you don't hear from the other side and you're not able to make decisions for communities that take into account the needs of women and men."

According to McConnell, the FCM is making strides towards creating a gender balance across the country, however more needs



Chad Ingram Echo staff

Highlands East Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge, right, is sworn in as a member of county council by clerk Tamara Wilbee.

to be done.

"Part of our work is to look at the democratic deficit across the country in municipalities and after this election we're still about 1,700 women short of that gender balance across the country."

As was shown with the recent developments in Haliburton, certain gains have been made.

"Kudos to Haliburton ... in a sense it's not that surprising to me because rural women have led in Ontario," said McConnell. "It's interesting where we've made gains and where we haven't."

Gains or no gains, when it comes down to it McConnell emphasizes the gender numbers or the political ratios are not a matter of winning a competition.

"This isn't about shutting out the voice of men, it's about balancing it with the voice of women," she said.

"This democratic deficit is not

good for our municipalities and I think it's in the interest of everyone to make sure that there is a gender balance at the table so that better decisions can be made for communities."

As for Haliburton, the county is well on its way to creating not only a strong democracy but for opening the doors for female politicians at all levels.

"The good thing from this is that no one can say there are political barriers for female politicians in Haliburton County," said Reid.

"These are good news stories and definitely speak to the fact that women want to be involved," said Peckford. "Women absolutely want to contribute and be a part of shaping the decisions of their communities, or their provinces or their country."

Roads department still working out kinks with York Street

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Dec. 13 meeting of Dysart et al council.

Construction on York Street may be 95 per cent complete, however the roads department is still working out problems with the new streetscape.

Roads superintendent Brian Nicholson told council the department was still going through a list of issues to work on and was hoping for an extended deadline.

Reeve Murray Fearrey told Nicholson the project deadlines couldn't be extended due to funding policies.

"It could get political if we try and extend it," said Fearrey.

"Well then we'll just work through it," said Nicholson.

One of the problems being addressed on York Street is the amount of light the new fixtures are emitting. Nicholson told councillors the light was insufficient.

"Take a drive down there at night and see what you think of the lighting," said Nicholson.

"Well it's certainly not too bright," said Fearrey.

Nicholson said there are grey areas in between the current light fixtures.

"I wanted more of an overlap personally. If you're a pedestrian walking through there at night there are dark areas," said Nicholson.

Moving forward Nicholson said the lights could be supplemented in the interim with the old lighting, which has since been disconnected by hydro.

"I do need some feedback from council moving forward on what to do," said Nicholson.

"We'll have to look at it again," said Fearrey.

November passes without one fire call

Fire personnel weren't feeling the heat during the month of November, as the department didn't receive a single fire call.

"That's the first time I've ever seen that," said Fearrey.

Fire chief Miles Maughan said the department was kept busy with a number of motor vehicle accidents now that the winter weather had arrived.

"People don't know how to drive in the winter," said Maughan.

"For some it will take until next summer to learn," said Fearrey.

Councillor Andrea Roberts mentioned a donation the fire department received from the Rotary Club.

"That was a nice surprise," said Maughan.

According to Maughan's report the organization has agreed to assist with the purchase of a new snowmobile trailer. The department has also purchased and installed headphone radios to assist in communication at the scene.

Building permits decrease in November

Sixteen building permits were issued for November, a drop compared to the 32 issued in October.

"Last month we were saying how well we were doing on building permits," said Fearrey. "Now it's caught up to us."

Council believed the winter weather and snow could have an effect on the numbers.

In November 2009, 26 permits were issued.

Municipality receives walkability award

Reeve Murray Fearrey accepted an Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence on behalf of the municipality.

Presented by Green Communities Canada, the award was presented by Sue Shikaze and Kate Hall for the municipality's efforts to promote walking and creating a more walkable community.

"The award is being given to the village of Haliburton and Minden Hills," said Shikaze. "It's a new award being given to those municipalities that create a culture for walking."

According to Shikaze the scope of work being done by the municipality to improve walkability is incredible.

"This award shows it's possible to promote healthy living in small communities," said Shikaze. "The municipality is a key player in this. Congratulations, Dysart."

The award was made possible through the healthy community fund and was applied for by Shikaze. The municipality won in the rural category.

The award came from a grant from the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport's Healthy Communities Fund and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Municipality embraces cultural mapping plan

A special presentation made to council outlined future plans for cultural mapping and municipal cultural planning.

Presented by Minden Hills Cultural Centre director Daniela Pagliaro and Haliburton Arts Council coordinator Kim McBrien, the plan included an overview of cultural mapping, its benefits to the county and the municipality's official plan.

"Municipal cultural planning includes a municipally led process for identifying and leveraging a community's cultural resources," said McBrien, which includes integrating cultural resources across various levels of government planning and decision-making.

The presentation defined cultural mapping as "a systematic approach to identifying, recording and analyzing a community's cultural assets."

The presentation included examples of other municipalities that have embraced cultural mapping, including Prince Edward County.

"Culture is the fastest growing sector in the economy," said Pagliaro. "A new term


being used to define this is culturnomics." "Cultural mapping is now considered the fourth pillar of planning."

Pagliaro and McBrien informed coun-

cillors the mapping process would include public engagement sessions once enough information has been gathered.

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points of view

Women are better half

COUNTY COUNCIL made history last week when the scales of representation tipped for the first time toward the female gender.

At Tuesday's inauguration meeting, five women were sworn in as councillors for Haliburton County – on the eight-member council, women now make up 63 per cent of representation.

It's an achievement to revel in.

Last term of county council had only two women representatives.

Now we have two from Minden Hills (Reeve Barb Reid and Deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch); two from Algonquin Highlands (Reeve Carol Moffatt and Deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen); and one from Highlands East (Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge).

Partridge's story is particularly captivating.

Four years ago, when she started her term as councillor in Highlands East, Partridge was told by one of her male colleagues that the role of deputy-reeve was a man's job.

In that municipality, where the deputy-reeve is chosen by council rather than the electorate, Partridge was passed over for the role, despite having a lengthy history as a local representative, including a term as reeve of Cardiff township.

This term, her fellow councillors easily chose Partridge for the role – one that she is surely relishing, given the

journey it took to get there.

Current councillors say it is not gender, but decision-making ability, that matters in their line of work.

And while that is true, the gender composition of council *does* matter.

The strength of democracy comes from the ability of government to adequately represent the people it serves: part of that representation means reflecting society.

When more than half of us are women, but only a quarter of our representa-

tives are, that's a problem.

It shows a weakness in our system and in our society.

When women aren't adequately represented time after time it means (a) that young girls have few political role models to look to and (b) that women, for whatever reason, aren't able to engage in elected office – either they're seen as not governing material (as Partridge once was) or they find the system inhospitable.

This new council, simply by virtue of its gender ratio, is already working to reverse those trends.

That doesn't mean their decisions will be sound or that their choices will be above scrutiny.

It just means that our county is more comfortable with the idea of women in charge.

It's been a long time coming.



Jenn Watt
Editor



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Icicles

photo by Darren Lum

The odd days of Christmas

I'LL JUST COME OUT and say it: Christmas music is mighty strange. I know deep down most of you agree but few are likely to come right out and say it for fear of ridicule, reindeer reprisal or being added to the dreaded Naughty List (I'm a charter member).

It's not that holiday music isn't enjoyable. Carolling, especially after 12 egg nogs, can be quite the experience but really, have you ever stopped to listen to the words? Reading the lyrics to a Christmas carol is like looking at the ingredients that go into making a hot dog in that you're much better off just not looking.

Take the old standard The Christmas Song, which starts out with a warm and fuzzy ode to burning nuts in your fireplace. No harm there but then, near the end it gets pretty, well, elitist. The lyrics go: "And so I'm offering this simple phrase, To kids from one to 92." My simple question is what do you have against babies and people close to the century mark? Is the song trying to imply there's a prime demographic for enjoying the holidays? I suppose this is a warning to all you newborns and 93 year olds out there to get lost.

Then there's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year, a raucous little ditty

that seems to move along at a nice pace until it goes off onto a odd little lyrical tangent when we're told there'll be scary ghost stories and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago. Odd. I don't

remember the "scary ghost stories" part around our family tree. Maybe the composer is just huge on Halloween and thought he'd just slip that one in.

Speaking of trees, O Christmas Tree is perhaps the weirdest carol of all. Here is a 32-line musical tribute to a former citizen of the forest. So, as I understand it, people stand around worshipping a

dying coniferous tree in song, and that's OK but imagine if we were singing about a big rock instead. You'd call that a cult.

I'll Be Home For Christmas is pretty much as sweet as Christmas songs get but, if you listen to it another way, it comes across as a guy backing out of a date. Look at the lyrics and, instead of singing to them, imagine hearing them left on an answering machine: "I'll be home for Christmas /You can count on me /Please have snow and mistletoe / and presents on the tree/Christmas Eve will find me /Where the love light gleams /I'll be home for Christmas/If only in my dreams."

Sounds like one really angry woman and a whole pile of leftovers.



Charlie Teljeur
Thinking Small

points of view

Blades of glory

LONG AGO, some cute little kid sang out that all she wanted for Christmas was her two front teeth. Luckily, I don't play hockey, so my wish is a little different.

Really, all I want is for swords to come back into style.

This occurred to me on the weekend when I was watching an old movie where one of the characters was able to walk around his neighbourhood wearing a big shiny sword attached to his sash. And no one thought anything of it either.

Not one person was horrified by the thought that he could – at the drop of a hat – decide to go to the produce section and split a melon in half. No one worried that he might decide to visit a candle shop and slice a few candles so quickly and cleanly that you didn't even know they were sliced until long after he left the store. No, they just trusted a grown man, who wore tights and a bright sash, to have sound judgment.

Right then and there, it occurred to me that, in our quest for less swash-buckling, we seem to have lost something really important.

If you think about it, a sword would

be a useful thing to carry around.

Why, you say?

OK, imagine you are at an office birthday party and someone forgets to bring a knife to cut the cake. You try to hide this fact, but soon word gets out among the rank and file and an angry mob forms.

"Oh no," the party planner says. "We have no knife to cut the cake. The party is ruined!"

Suddenly, the crowd turns ugly and pitchforks, torches and sickles are produced and waved about. For some inexplicable reason, someone shouts, "Kill the beast!"

Not even pin the tail on the donkey can diffuse the situation.

Fortunately, that's when I, or any of the other sword carrying guys, would draw our swords, say something witty, and deftly slice the cake into tidy, equal portions, thus saving the day and dispersing the unruly crowd.

And that's just one good reason for bringing swords back.

Here's another. Do you know how difficult it is to quickly carve the letter Z into highly visible inanimate objects using only a Swiss Army knife? (Sorry about the coffee table, Mom.)

By the way, when I say sword, I don't mean light sabres – I'm not an idiot.

In any case, once swords are back, it'd be OK to jump from rooftops onto horses or swing from curtains across dining halls so you could land smack dab in the middle of a trestle table during a feast where unjust people are gnawing on huge chicken legs. Just try that now and see where it gets you. (Once again, sorry Mom.)

I can, in fact, think of a hundred other reasons why I'd like to be able to carry a sword – not the least of which is rope cutting. If I were allowed to carry a sword I would never have to undo knots again. This, of course, would be a boon for the ailing shoelace industry too. Think about that.

Admittedly, the idea is not without problems. For one thing, unless they started to make shorter long swords, short men like me would have to wear our sashes just under our armpits – and even then my scabbard would be dragging. Which, if you think about it, would be a great pickup line.

Still, I believe that no harm could come from allowing people to wear swords once again. After all, it's as much about fashion as utility. And, just once, I'd like to be on the cutting edge.



Steve Galea

Tales from Vinegar Hill



pic of the past

These smiling children made the front page of the Echo on Dec. 16, 1981. They were enjoying a ride on a horse-drawn wagon during a Christmas party that the Glamorgan volunteer fire fighters hosted.

letters to the editor

Is there any money for animal welfare?

To the Editor,

Three questions for both Haliburton and Minden councillors:

1. Do you have plans to put in place money toward the welfare of animals in these communities?
2. If so, will it be sufficient to comfortably house and care for abandoned and abused animals?
3. Will you hire a caregiver to take the load off of the SPCA in Bracebridge and HART in Bancroft? The responsibility belongs to us!

There is far too much animal abuse everywhere – our area being no exception.

You just have to look at the dogs living their lives on chains and the feral cats in both communities (Minden's choice of "solving" this problem was beyond belief in a supposedly civilized society!).

We are told so often that the people committing this cruelty are not capable of understanding their actions. In some cases, we need our children to help us – they are the makers of change.

A child will always choose kindness over cruelty, but when the adults around them do the opposite, they learn to accept it.

"Using" animals is the best way to counteract bullying and aggressiveness while learning understanding and compassion. It is always a win-win situation.

Animals do not judge.

Many people are willing to help – veterinarians included.

Please send your response to the newspaper.

The Phipps Family

HATVA tries to make things better

To the Editor,

This letter is in response to Rob McPhee's letter about problems with recreational vehicles using the trail running past his house and his concern for the safety of his children and his deaf dog.

When Haliburton ATV Association [HATVA] read his letter, we made several calls and paid a visit. The trail that passes Mr. McPhee's property is not part of the HATVA signed trail system. However, to assist him in trying to slow people down, HATVA has ordered signs for him stating "Slow Ahead, Children and Deaf Dog."

Haliburton ATV takes pride in working within this community and with its residents. We will do whatever we can, within reason, to help in controversial situations. We regard the use of Haliburton trails as a privilege and do our best to educate the public not to abuse this privilege.

Bob Johnson
President HATVA

**More letters to the Editor
on page 8**

letters

Reader dismayed

An open letter to Barry Devolin MP
Dear Barry,

Please explain what the Canadian government is doing to immediately take action on climate change.

I am dismayed to learn that again Canada has been declared "Fossil of the Year" by the world's leading environmental groups. Why did the Conservative-dominated Senate add insult to injury by rejecting the climate change bill that was approved by the majority of democratically elected MPs without fulfilling their mandate to be the "chamber of sober second thought"? Never before in the history of Canada has a bill been rejected by the Senate without due consideration and debate. It is a travesty to our democracy and parliamentary process!

Why is there no plan to put in place policies that will ensure consumers and businesses are financially motivated to conserve? Why is the federal government paying huge subsidies to our oil and gas industries that only serve to accelerate depletion of finite resources, and compounds climate change problems?

Studies done for the British government show action on climate change has far more economic benefit than the consequences of inaction. Canada should be a world leader, not hiding behind other nations. How can you sleep at night knowing your votes in Parliament are helping to rob our children and grandchildren of a future?

R.B. MacMorran,
President, Haliburton-Kawartha
Lakes-Brock Federal Liberal Association

Valerie Smith bids a fond farewell

December is upon us and winter's icy breath has spread her tapestry before us cladding the local landscape in her best mantle of white. It may be cold outside but no one can refute how beautiful it looks as we near the shortest day of the year and the longest night. The virgin snow is beautiful to behold and yet it reminds me that the year is almost gone and what a busy year end it has been!

My 10 year tenure as Trillium Lakelands School Board trustee has come to a close. I wish to extend my gratitude to all the wonderful people of Haliburton County who gave me their support over those 10 years and during the October election. I thank all those who believed in me and for all the supporting notes, emails and phone calls. Though victory evaded me, I do know that my ending as public school board trustee for Haliburton County remains the same as my beginning – filled with passion and devotion to public education and providing opportunities to promote success for all student learners.

The past 10 years at TLDSB have been years filled with challenges and rewards. In 2000 when I came on as trustee, TLDSB was in the throws, like many other school boards across the province, of handling an awesome task. Through new legislature and Ministry of Education directives, school boards were reeling from amalgamation and educational reforms to create a new organization. TLDSB was to bring three very distinct areas together as one – Haliburton County, the Muskoka area and City of Kawartha Lakes. There were varying options and views how to best achieve this. Some looked to the past and said the past should be replicated while others were eager to develop a new and truly unique organization. TLDSB chose to move forward to create a distinctive culture. The task of restructuring was looked upon as a time to try new ideas, review past successes in all three areas, and explore creative solutions. It was a time for profound learning, a time to create a learning organization able

to cope with current and continuous changes. A new mind set had to be created that tolerated different points of views and held views as being genuinely important and worthy of discussion. In order to make change meaningful and lasting, TLDSB employed the idea that change was best brought about by engaging all members of TLDSB in the change process. We wanted a new distinctive culture characterized by a readiness to accept new ideas and solve problems together. We wanted to develop positive interrelationships throughout all of TLDSB.

Our overarching beliefs focused on accountability, caring, positive change, effective communication, learning, community, caring and commitment. This was our initial road map and it has been our intended direction as we addressed the emerging issues over the past 10 years. As with any journey, there have been some detours along the way, however TLDSB has continued its journey along the initial road way and it has been a great map bringing TLDSB to where it is today. A board of education that is willing to meet provincial education initiatives and directions head on. Turning challenges into opportunities. It has been a long road to a truly great destination!

Over the past 10 years my fellow trustees and I have worked diligently with directors

of education Evelyn Brown, David Hill, Cathy Verduyn and present director Larry Hope, members of senior administration, education staff and all our school communities to bring TLDSB to be the great board it is today. TLDSB is a board of education that is well respected by its own community and other boards across the province.

I am very proud to have been a part of the journey of TLDSB over the past years. The intricate road map of TLDSB is one I would highly recommend to all organizations. A road map in which people are empowered in a respectful and professional manner and are encouraged to work cooperatively and collaboratively together. A road map that builds its purpose into structure and embodies these reasons for existence into everyday actions and transforms organizations from neutral participants into committed partners. My wish for all organizations and committees in Haliburton County is success and prosperity.

My wish for individuals is that your homes are filled with love, laughter and great smells of home cooked meals this Christmas season and your New Year be filled with peace, understanding, good health and good will.

Valerie Smith
Harcourt



Legion gives \$3,000 to 4Cs

Haliburton Legion president Karla Watson, far right, and first-vice Jack Greavette present a cheque in the amount of \$3,000 to Judy MacDuff, treasurer of the 4Cs. The funds were raised through the Legion's lottery fund.

Angelica Blenich
Echo staff

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Home found for low-income dental clinic

Jenn Watt
Editor

Haliburton's new community dental clinic will be joining Canoe FM on Maple Avenue as it moves into the back portion of the building owned by Dysart.

For a low monthly rate, the Haliburton County Volunteer Dental Outreach Clinic will be a tenant of the municipality, allowing volunteer dentists and hygienists to offer their services to low-income adult residents of the county.

The location was announced during a meeting of organizers Friday, Dec. 17, where other major issues were tackled, including governance structure and legal matters.

It was also announced that dentist Dr. John

Purc would be volunteering with Dr. William Kerr and hygienist Lisa Stoughton at the clinic.

"Dentists or hygienists will sign in and be available to have patients booked with them. Dr. Purc is going to be one of the dentists and I'll be one of the dentists," said Kerr, who along with Stoughton was the originator of the clinic.

All the supplies will be donated either by the dental professionals in the community, product manufacturers or purchased through donations from the public.

After the meeting Friday, which included many prominent local residents, a management board was created including Bill and Lisa Kerr, Janis Parker, Maarten Steinkamp, Lisa Stoughton, Hugh Nichol and Gena Robertson.

"This meeting this morning was excellent. I

was very impressed. I think this idea has legs," said Steinkamp.

Steinkamp will be approaching the board of The Blue Line, the wing of his restaurant that collects and disperses funds to worthy causes, about sponsoring the dental clinic on an ongoing basis.

"I'm going to present this to the board of The Blue Line to see if we can become a structural partner, because I'm not worried about the start-up costs, I'm worried about the operational costs," he said.

Barb Bolin, who was chairperson at the meeting as part of the Haliburton County Development Corporation's contribution to the project, said the mood of the meeting was uplifting.

"I haven't seen an initiative in Haliburton

County that has had just immediate excitement around it in a long time. It was really encouraging," she said.

Kerr estimated that the clinic would be opening in May, since the group has to wait for the Ontario Senior Winter Games to vacate the space first.

The clinic will be open to adults since there is already a government program for children from low-income households to receive dental care. However, there are discussions about including some kids who "fall through the cracks."

Donations to the program can be made by contacting Kerr or SIRCH Community Services bill_kerr@sympatico.ca or info@sirch.on.ca. You can also donate online at www.sirch.on.ca.



As of December 7th, we have raised
\$25,008 towards our goal for critical care equipment.

Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

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As the Christmas & Holiday Season approaches, we hope you will give from your heart to care for your family, friends and loved ones.

Special Thanks to Canoe 100.9 FM & Moose 93.5 FM.
Stay tuned for weekly updates.



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Pindermont's Best Road



For the first time in recent memory four lucky people went home jackpot winners from weekly bingo hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion Haliburton branch this past Wednesday.

There were four winners, who split the \$1,000 prize four ways, including Diane Greavette, pictured at right, learning of her fortune.

With 121 participants, it was the biggest crowd out for weekly bingo since the summer, beating the usual average by more than 50 people.

The larger crowd not only brought non-perishable and cash contributions to the 4Cs food bank in Haliburton, but an additional excitement to the final jackpot round when few seats were empty.

Legion bingo night helps to raise funds for the organization's lottery account, which has chosen various recipients every year such as the 4Cs, the Salvation Army and the Highland Minor Hockey Association.

This is the final night for bingo before the holidays. It will resume in the new year on Jan.5.

B-I-N-G-O ... bingo



Clockwise, from above; bingo caller Brian Hambly reaches for a ball to call out; a ball waits to be plucked from the machine by Hambly; Diane Greavette raises her hand, smiling and laughing with delight after a series of earlier close finishes; a dabber in action, applying green marks to a full card; and there were more than 100 participants in the last bingo night of the calendar year.



Photos by Darren Lum

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Roof repair restores a lost faith

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

There was more than a leaking roof restored after local business owners responded to a resident in need.

When Maureen Taylor, an Irondale homeowner, submitted a letter to the *Echo* about how a roofing company she hired left her for months waiting for roof repairs, she got more than she asked for.

Shortly after the *Echo* published the letter Dec. 7, Southbound Roofing Inc. arrived with a crew of three, including co-owner Lloyd Robbins, who learned of the situation through the paper, to fix the leaking roof on the small home.

Robbins said the job could have been completed in one day, but it took two since he was limited to a pick-up truck for cleanup.

Taylor was in disbelief when they showed up at her home.

"My dogs wouldn't stay outside for five minutes when they were here. It was so cold. They were out there. I'm in awe ... I almost had tears," she said, her voice wavering emotionally. "When they finished the job I looked at Lloyd and when I thanked him for doing this I couldn't believe that somebody would do this for free, without complaining or anything. They just went up there with a cheerful smile."

After they finished the work Taylor



Maureen Taylor's faith in humanity was restored after her roof was repaired for free following a letter to the editor earlier this month. /Submitted photo

remembered her own words from her letter that referred to a bygone era when you could make a deal on a handshake. She

made sure to shake Robbins's hand and thank him, looking him straight in the eye, holding back tears.

"My eyes welled up, but I wouldn't let myself cry in front of him. I was on my way see **ROOFING** page 13

To all of the sellers and buyers, businesses and fellow agents I have had the pleasure of dealing with this year, thank you for your trust & support and for making 2010 such a success!

A very special Thank-you goes out to my wife Ginger, my family, friends and neighbours.

Wishing one and all a very Joyous Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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WISHING YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

From the staff of the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times.

Roofing company downplays generosity

from page 12

out so I got in the car and then I sobbed a bit, but at the same time it was an overwhelming rectifying feeling of human beings ... there are still good people in the world that truly just care about people and not the dollar."

Robbins, 42, learned of the story and contacted his employee Ken Docherty to arrange the work. He felt bad for Taylor and

“

There are still good people in the world that truly just care about people and not the dollar.

— Maureen Taylor
Recipient of roof repair

“

We just thought we'd give her a hand. It wasn't that big of a deal.

— Lloyd Robbins
Owner, Southbound Roofing

her situation when he heard the story.

"We just thought we'd give her a hand. It wasn't that big of a deal," Robbins said, downplaying his act of generosity.

He has six employees working for him and his younger brother Steven Robbins. Among the company's regular clients include Rodco Enterprise and it's always been his policy to not accept advances for jobs because it gives his customers more options in cases when he becomes too busy.

He has been living here fulltime for the past six years and has made a home here, putting finishing touches to his home, including landscaping to his property.

When Kim Emmerson, owner of Emmerson Lumber, heard the story from Robbins he was on board right away to donate the shingles and the material, saying it was part of doing the right thing for the community.

The humble Emmerson, who has run the business for more than 30 years, added his action isn't unique among business owners, as most in the area are generous.

Taylor said the situation shook her image of society.

"I've always had faith in people, but I always put too much faith in people and when this other company did this to me, it really put me through an

emotional spin," Taylor said.

When selecting a roofer, Taylor found three quotes and because the work was paid for through a provincial grant a Minden-based company with the lowest quote received the \$4,800 from the government. It took six months for her to get approval.

The job and the full amount were accepted in mid-October because of various reassurances the company made to her. She was led to believe the job was going to be completed sometime at the end of October or early November. There was a month, she said, when there was not any contact from the company.

After a series of fruitless visits (when the location was closed), phone calls and letters written on her behalf by her personal aide and the government agency in December, the company still had not started the work.

"All I wanted was a date. I could never get a date. They'd always say, 'Oh, we'll let you know. Oh, we'll call you. Oh, weather permitting,'" she said, about when she did speak to them.

In December her roof leaked, letting in water to the interior of her home from the accumulation of snow, which prompted her letter to the newspaper.

She wrote her letter out of frustration and as a warning to consumers when choosing companies to ask around, to not choose based on price alone.

The Minden-based company, which is not a member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, in question did not return the *Echo's* calls.

They are currently being investigated by an Ontario government agency, said Taylor.

She added they have not responded to letters or phone calls made by the agency, as of last week.

Now her eligibility to receive the same grant later this year is in jeopardy if the government cannot regain the lost money.

The leak has led to interior water damage and additional roof problems to her home.

Although her immediate roof concerns are resolved there remains close to \$2,000 left of roof work left to be completed, she

said.

However, despite the ordeal she is still willing to give the company the benefit of the doubt.

"Maybe they just have a lot of problems going on in their life right now. I'm not angry too much with them because I know life can get confusing. Times are getting harder for everybody," she said.

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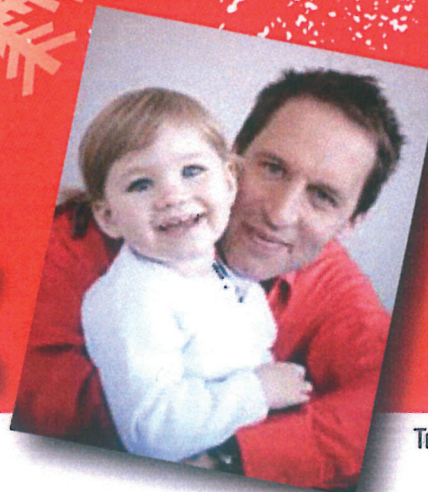
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Tom Wilkinson, a director with the Muskoka and Haliburton Association of Realtors presented a cheque for \$739 to Lorraine Hughes of the Word of Life clothing outreach and food bank located in Wilberforce. Money is collected monthly by all the realtors in Haliburton and then donated back to various charities in our local area. This year cheques were presented to the food banks in Wilberforce, Cardiff and Minden. /Submitted photo



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3	Eric Schuster	564
4	Eleanor Lymer	560
5	Ronald Sedley	528
6	Jeff Barry	522.75
7	Scott LaRue	522.75
8	Andrew McGill	512.75
9	Paul Cameron	507
10	Martin Schuster	499.75
11	Bob McKay	496.75
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14	Larry Southgate	481.75
15	Jordan Hamilton	480.75
16	Ian Kemp	474.5
17	Michael Moxley	473.75
18	David Douglas	469.75
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HALIBURTON FURNITURE



Grade 3 students get taste of old times during pioneer day

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

Bonnets and ruffles were aplenty as Grade 3 students got a taste of the good old days on Dec. 17 as Stuart Baker Elementary School held its annual pioneer day.

The day-long event saw students dressed in traditional

pioneer clothing as they made their way to eight different stations where they engaged in historical activities.

While some students used a personal chalkboard slate and chalk to complete math problems others made wax candles or baked cornbread.

The activities commenced with a sing-along in the gym and a chance for all to sample their cornbread topped with freshly churned homemade butter.



Angelica Blenich Echo staff

During pioneer day, held at Stuart Baker Elementary School on Dec. 17, students experienced historical learning methods such as solving math problems with only a slate and chalk. Part of the Grade 3 curriculum, the annual event included students dressing in pioneer clothes while they engaged in activities such as candle making and cornbread baking.



Mme Zahab, back centre, smiles with Morgan, left, Gillian and Dakota, all dressed in traditional pioneer wear.

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



The 5TH ANNUAL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS Gala

**Nominations are now being accepted for
THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2010 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Small Business of the Year (1-25 Employees)
Large Business of the Year (26 + Employees)
New Business of the Year (in business 3 years or less)
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Highlander of the Year
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Skilled Trades Award ****New this year****
Innovation & Creativity Business Award ****New this year****

Please ensure the nominee fits all criteria of the Award and provide proper explanation to assist the nomination committee in their decisions.

Nominations will be accepted until December 10th, 2010.

Nominations can be email, mailed, faxed or delivered in person to

Kendra Kellett, Membership Services, P.O. Box 147,

5 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 Tel: 705-286-1760, Fax: 705-286-6016,

Email: kendra@haliburtonchamber.com

For nomination criteria and forms are available at www.haliburtonchamber.com

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The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is presenting the 5th Annual 2010 Business & Community Achievement Awards Ceremony at Pinestone Resort, Conference Centre & Golf Course on Saturday, January 15th, 2011.

The Gala celebrates the achievement and contributions of people who live and work in the County of Haliburton.

We have Sponsorship opportunities still available in all levels: Platinum, Awards, Gold and Silver.

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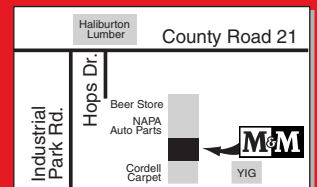
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Happy holidays from our family to yours!

Museum gains new lease on life

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

There was a chorus of compliments and atmosphere of excitement as visitors responded to the completion of renovations to the Haliburton Highlands Museum Saturday, Dec. 18.

A partnership between Fleming College's sustainable renovation class and Dysart, who provided materials, resulted in the renovation of the museum's exterior, the main display area and flooring for both floors completed only hours before the open house.

The professors Pat Savard and Josh Thornton were beaming with pride for their eight students, who invested four months and more than 6,000 hours of hard work towards the building.

The museum's director Tom Ballantine, who worked in the old building for 25 years, was impressed and has already begun imagining what he can do with the newly renovated building that not only looks and smells natural because of a long

list of natural products used including milk paint, marmoleum floor made from linseed oil and cork, which can easily last 50 years, earthen plaster on the walls made from clay and sand, recycled cedar planks which were taken from the old façade and a solar-powered heating system in the wall facing the road.

"I'm really excited about it. I have this blank canvas to work with and can't wait to get started," he said, holding his camera, ready to take another photo. "I think it'll be wonderful for our visitors."

There has also been additional space created by the exposed area of the ceiling, lit with energy efficient LED lights and track lighting with dimming options.

The best part, he said, aside from the side entrance way's bottled window to the double-door main entrance on the first floor, is the excitement this renovation has generated.

"People might be a little excited about what is here again. It's going to be new and they're going to want to see it. That's going to be exciting for us," he said, referring to himself and curator Stephen Hill.



Darren Lum Echo staff

Visitors look at the new facade to the renovated Haliburton Highlands Museum. The main entrance will now be on the front of the building.

The official re-opening is expected this spring at the earliest, as there are other things the building needs such as a wheelchair lift.

The professors said one of the students

is expected to create a building manual in two weeks for a description of the building and to ensure proper maintenance. It is expected to be posted at www.sustainablerenovation.ca.

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Season's Greetings

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Photo by Carrie Oitment

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Shopping Christmas 2010

By Ev Stata

Only three days to Christmas and what do you know,
Our town is all covered with tons of snow.
Our stores are all filled with hundreds of toys,
Ready for Santa to bring girls and boys.

Oh dear, only two more days to get out and shop,
I guess I'd better get there and hop
Down to the stores and get a lookin',
And get some gifts – see what's cookin'.

To start a month ago would have been good,
But I don't know, I just wasn't in the mood.
Didn't know what to get anybody, no indeed,
I just don't know – they have everything they need.

No sense of getting clothing, I don't know their size or style,
It's because I haven't seen them for quite a while.
But I'm hoping to see them again real soon,
Just about Christmas day at noon!

And what about those children, they've got so big,
For what I'd dream up they wouldn't care a fig.
I'll have to rattle my brains a little more yet,
To think what they could use, to be a safe bet.

Oh, oh, Christmas Eve!

Oh, I know what they'd like, where is my head,
I don't need to go to the store, I'll hit the bank instead
And give them all some money and a message clear
Love to all, merry Christmas and a happy new year!

My letter to Santa

By Marjorie Ludlow Green

Dear Santa:

Lately I've been giving thought
To all the toys and things I've bought
For years and years, ad infinitum,
And if I total up each item,
I calculate that I've spent millions,
Or maybe trillions, or even zillions,
And all in aid of helping YOU
To come off looking real 'true blue'.

Who was it stayed up all one night
To get that train set working right?
And who set up that bouncing horse?
Was that you? No - me of course!
Who each year made those kids look pretty,
Dragged their butts into the city,
And faced that downtown Christmas zoo,
Just so they could chat with you?

Who told them all how great you were,
With all your fatness and your fur?
Who talked of reindeer in the snow,
And Christmas cheer and "Ho-ho-ho"?
Who tucked them in (as smooth as silk),
Then went downstairs and drank YOUR milk?
Stayed up 'til dawn and wrapped each thing
That Santa was supposed to bring?

Well, now I think it's time things changed!
My boys are men; life's rearranged.
It's time for re-assessment too,
It's time for me to take MY cue
And start to think of Number One
And all the good things I have done.
You owe me! Yes, you know you do,
So S.C., I want this from you:

You know that gift you've heard me mention?
That gift you say defies convention?
That gift I've asked for every year,
In words so plain that all could hear?
Well this year, I expect to see
That special gift beneath my tree.
If Robert Redford's not my treat
Then that's it Santa - you're dead meat!

Love from,
Marjorie



CELEBRATE THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

We invite you to visit one of our Christian Churches this Christmas

St. George Anglican Church Haliburton Wednesday, December 24th 7pm Caroling & Christmas Eve Service	St. Peter's Anglican Church Maple Lake - 286-2541 December 25th 10:00 am Book of Common Prayer Service	Haliburton United Church Haliburton - 457-1891 December 24th 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service Communion	St Margaret's Anglican Church Wilberforce December 24th 4:30 pm Christmas Service	Zion United Church Canarvan December 24th 3:00 pm Family Service
St. Jame's Anglican Church Kinnmount December 24th 7:00 pm Holy Communion	Minden United Church Minden December 24th 7:00 pm Family Service	St. Paul's Anglican Church Minden December 24th 4:00 pm Family Service 11:00 pm Midnight Mass	St. Anthony's Catholic Church Haliburton December 24th 5:30 pm Carol Singing 6:00 Christmas Mass	Maple Lake United Church Maple Lake December 24th 9:00 pm Communion Service
Lakeside Baptist Church Haliburton December 24th 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service	St. Patrick's Church Kinnmount December 24th 7:00 pm December 25th 9:00 am	Our Lady of Fatima Church Minden December 24th 5:00 pm Children Christmas December 24th 9:00 pm December 25th 10:30 am	Christmas Eve Service at Eagle Lake Community Church Friday, December 24 th at 7:00 p.m. Invite your whole family, your friends and your neighbours! "God's Gift to the Nations"	



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Taylor paints a picture with his mom's help.



Staff and volunteers at Camp Wanakita pose with the big man himself at a Breakfast with Santa event held on Dec. 4. The event included a free nutritious breakfast, a visit from Santa Claus and games for kids of all ages.

Photos by Angelica Blenich



Georgia enjoys her french toast with Santa.

Smiling faces enjoy breakfast with Santa

By Angelica Blenich

Pancakes, face painting and pictures.

These were just some of the highlights that more than 100 children and adults enjoyed on Dec. 4 for the first breakfast with Santa event held at Camp Wanakita.

Organized by camp staff, the free event was made possi-

ble through corporate sponsors and volunteers. Donations received at the breakfast were given to local charities.

Following the breakfast, families were invited to play carnival games and have their photo taken with the big man himself.

Ron Tenthoirey, director of food services for Camp Wanakita, says organizers hope to expand the event, making it bigger and better every year.



Abby sits perfectly still as she gets her face painted at the Breakfast with Santa event.

Happy Holidays

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 Holiday Wishes
 HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Feliz Navidad Haliburton

Ecuadorian exchange student gets a taste of Canadian Christmas

By Darren Lum

She's practically Canadian.

With a bright smile and warm demeanor, Steffy Ramos, 17, cannot stop talking about the weather.

Ramos is here from the coastal city of Portoviejo (loosely translated, meaning old port), Ecuador. It has a population close to 200,000.

She arrived in September and is here for close to a year for the Rotary Club of Haliburton's Youth Exchange Long-Term Program and expects to return home in August.

When you experience nothing but sunny, dry conditions and an average temperature of 25 degrees Celsius most of the year, weather really isn't that interesting, ever.

Which is why she has loved the changing seasons and is excited to see snow.

"We don't have snow in Ecuador," she said, adding she is all set with her mitts, large coat and hat. "I've never thought about wearing all those kinds of things. It's new and I like it."

The impending colder climate is another new experience in a line of discoveries.

"I've never experienced this [kind of] cold before and I know it is going to get colder. I'm really excited about that," she said, admitting she is missing the warm weather a little.

For whatever cold weather that is sure to come, the South American teen already holds a warm spot for all the Canadians she has met.

Haliburton has exceeded her expectations for the place it is and, more importantly, the people who live here.

"It is much better than what I expected," she said. "I really like it. Everyone is so nice. They are so friendly."

This is the first time she has ever been in North America.

Steffy has always been captivated by the Canadian landscape and its wildlife from not only what her English teacher in Ecuador told her (he was originally from Victoria, B.C.), but also what she learned through homework assignments on Canada.

She's been exposed to a variety of Canadian cuisine from maple syrup to butter tarts, but among the list of foods she still has not tried is pumpkin pie.



Ecuadorian exchange student Steffy Ramos, 17, holding a photo of her family in a frame made by her mother, is excited about the upcoming Christmas and has already experienced snow for the first time in her life. Photo by Darren Lum

This trip was also an opportunity to improve her English.

Steffy and her immediate family are Christian and therefore don't observe all of the Catholic traditions in Ecuador, but she is familiar with them through anecdotes of her extended family, who are Catholic.

For most Ecuadorians, the extended family comes together for Christmas dinner, which showcases similar cuisine to that of North American dinner tables with a turkey as the centrepiece dish. Her extended family

lives too far for big gathering, she said, many friends though join her family for a big get-together.

Unlike in Canadian households when gifts and dinner usually occur on Christmas Day, in Ecuador the tradition is to have dinner and gift exchanging all on Christmas Eve, reserving the following day to sleep in after the night's festivities.

Although in North America Christians observe advent, in Ecuador, where the majority of the population is Catholic, the nine nights before the 25th are known as *Rezlar la Novena* when a different member of the family leads prayers and sing-songs each night, followed by a small dinner. In addition to gifts, everyone receives a large bag of candy filled with cookies, nuts, candy such as toffee and gum and chocolate and is referred to as *fundas de caramelos*.

"I love that. My dad loves that," she said, of the cookies known as *galletas de anis* and *galletas de canela*.

On New Year's Eve, Ecuadorians take to the streets and light up the night with fireworks.

Men dress as women, known as *viudas*, complete with fake bosoms, dresses and badly applied makeup. They are often seen dancing in the street and on top of vehicles, stopping only in exchange for money.

Streets are adorned with *ano viejo* dolls, which are life-sized dolls, filled with paper and bark chips and lit ablaze.

"One year we made a doll of my dad and then we burned it," she said, adding he liked it,

as it shows a sign of respect. "For us it is kind of fun."

This symbolizes a new beginning for the New Year, burning away the bad. Some families will even make dolls the size of a house, accompanied with loud music, blaring from speakers.

Seconds before midnight, individuals attempt to eat 12 grapes, one per second, making a wish for each grape. Letters are written with wishes and then burned with the dolls.

Steffy adds some will jump on the doll as it is burning.

Discussing her exchange experience, Steffy says one tip towards having a great time is keeping a positive attitude.

"If you're hoping to learn lots of things you just say, 'yes,' to everything."

This year's Haliburton representative is Lochlin resident and Haliburton Highlands Secondary School senior student Myia Newton, 17, who is in Manta, Ecuador.

The program has been offering students an international experience for more than 30 years and participants have included MP Barry Devolin.

Rotary picks students who are excited to try new things and willing to cope with whatever challenges occur during a 12-month period.

Candidates for the program must submit their completed applications (including personal information, a letter for the host family, family photos, guarantees by guardians or parents, medical history and examination, dental records, school reports and references).



It's been our pleasure serving you this past year and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.
Thanks!

GEORGE'S

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A Christmas to remember: Mexican style

By Jerelyn Craden

'Twas four nights before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, so I said: "Let's go to Olvera Street!"

A pretty outrageous idea considering it was all the way downtown, a good 50 minutes from my sister's house in West Hollywood, and it was already 7 p.m. Saturday night, Dec. 22. Fortunately, she was up for the adventure.

Hundreds of local Mexicans stood knit-one-pearl-one at the front doors of the old mission, hidden behind a 100-year-old stone wall. What lured us from the parking lot were three sky-licking palm trees ablaze with Christmas lights.

I had to get a picture.

I pulled on my sister's hand, and Zann and I skipped like kids until we realized we were skipping like kids. More lights drew us with the promise of fun and wonder to the oldest cobblestone street in Los Angeles - Olvera Street.

Fifty yards closer, an elderly priest recited vestiges in front of the mission doors. Two feet away, a child draped in ornamental clothing sat atop a donkey as worshippers gathered around in quiet reverie.

We made our way past the crowd to a courtyard where sugar-covered churros and hot drinks were being offered by helpers wearing heavy jackets and woolen mittens. Thirty degrees Fahrenheit to Los Angelinos is like 30 below zero to Haliburtonians, don'tcha know.

We crossed the street to the heart of the activities - stalls filled with hand-crafted leather shoes, belts, purses, key chains, hand-embroidered blouses, skirts, hand-woven serapes, blankets, toys, candies, all made in Mexico. Tequito stands, candle shops, art and trinket shops - all on a cobblestone street with no cars, just as it was over 100 years ago.

Then I saw it. The restaurant/cantina I had heard about for years ... its jutting canopied courtyard and magenta lights draped along wooden beams. Mexican music filled the air and a long line of anxious patrons met us with obvious disapproval.

I asked the elegantly dressed man standing in front of us if there was entertainment inside. "Oh yes," he said, "we've been coming here every Christmas for 30 years. Doubt if you can get in without a reservation."

His wife who was also dressed to the nines, looked Zann and me up and down, her eyes burning our blue jeans and running shoes to ashes.

I made a beeline to the host, asked for the impossible, and na-na-na-na-na! He escorted us past the gracious couple inside to the bar and pointed to two empty seats ... with a perfect view of the stage!

Children were everywhere ... in every other seat, on the laps of moms and grand-moms being rocked, cradled, and danced with. But first, the restaurant...

As we entered, the bar was to the right and tables to the left. Then the rest of the room was raised and tiered. Higher and higher, various levels held more tables like the interior of a cruise ship, only wonderfully rustic with hand-carved wooden beams, railings, warmly coloured Mexican paintings and candelabras.

A trio of women sang Mexican Christmas carols followed by a dance troupe from Mexico ... two thick-thighed, bare-chested young men costumed with great plumage and two young women wearing an array of petticoats and hand-embroidered blouses. Their dance was folkloric - much foot and ankle action, bodies proudly statuesque.

Children gathered in rows around the skirt of the stage. Even some adults joined them ...

to keep an eye on the kids, or just to be kids themselves?

Then, came the puppeteer with his heavily wrinkled face and shock of white hair, jumping his stringed puppets onto children's laps, then onto two long tables where they sang to customers.

Yipes and giggles joined music and song. It felt more like a wedding than a restaurant/cantina in downtown L.A.

Grandmothers danced with grandkids. Children ran free, exploring and showing off for anyone who would watch. Young mothers grabbed their husband's hands leading them to the dance floor. As for me?

I was filled with wonder, gratitude, and delicious contentment.

And to think ... we almost stayed home that night.



Fifteen year old HHHS student, Carrie Oitment, sent in this photo of her family horse in its paddock at the farm on Bethel Road.

Happy Holidays

Eileen Stiver Arthur Dawson Maureen Smith

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Auto, Home, Business, Cottage

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VERY MERRY GREETINGS

We always look forward to this time of year. It's our opportunity to tell you how much we appreciate your support.

Thanks.

G.J. BURTCH CONSTRUCTION
ENTERPRISES LTD.



The group is led in a sing-along at the annual Haliburton Highlands Writers' and Editors' Network Christmas event, held on Nov. 30 at The Peppermill. Photos by Angelica Blenich

Writers ring in Christmas with stories and poems

By Angelica Blenich

Marjorie Ludlow-Green has a very simple Christmas wish this year. Robert Redford.

The chairwoman of the Haliburton Highlands Writers' and Editors' Network made her wish known as she read her letter to Santa during the organization's annual Christmas event held on Nov. 30 in Carnarvon.

In a humorous take on a child's letter to Santa, Ludlow-Green informed Mr. Claus that after so many years of being good she better wake up on Christmas morning to find a certain red-headed actor under her tree.

The event included a number of short stories and Christmas poems read by members of the network.

Lea Harper read an anecdotal list of Christmas survival tips while Claire Sylvan read a self-penned short fiction story about a special Christmas gift.

Linda Voicey shared a true story about an untraditional Christmas spent away from home many years ago.

The event, which included a dinner, was capped off with a sing-along of a number of traditional holiday songs, including White Christmas and Jingle Bell Rock, all led by local chanteuse Jerelyn Craden.

Craden sang her own rendition of Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas for the crowd.

Ludlow-Green thanked all those who attended and encouraged everyone to use the holidays to put their pen to paper.

"I hope you all have a great Christmas and write, write, write," said Ludlow-Green.



Jerelyn Craden leads a sing-along.

Holiday Greetings... From Our Home to Yours!



Present: Ray, Katie, Lindsay, Laura, Jen, Cheryl, Susan, Claudette, Janet & Andrea.

Not Present: Doug, Kevin, Winston, Fred, Kestral, Bethalin, Sherri-Lynn, Camille, Tyler & Cammeron.



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With Our Happiest Thanks
& Warm Wishes



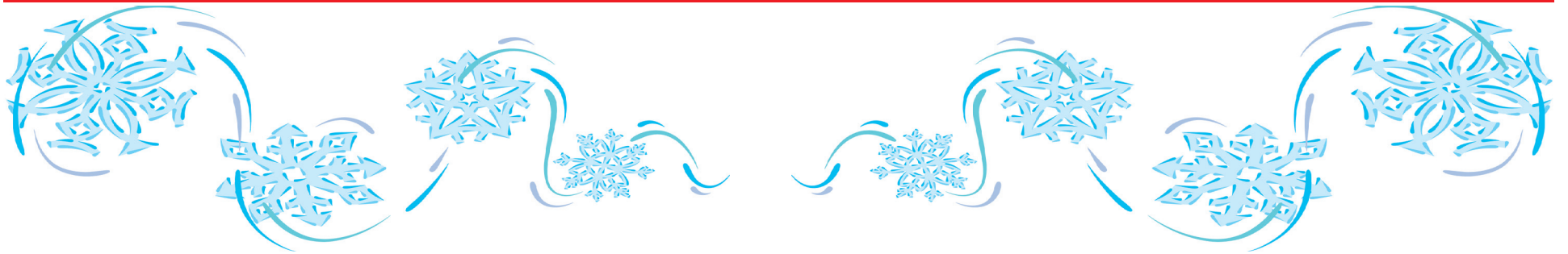
May your holiday season be filled with
goodtimesandfondmemoriesforlong
time to come.

**Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year from...**

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Happy Holidays from the Whole Team at 



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Heartwarming Patronage



Best wishes for a safe
and happy 2011!

From everyone at
BOWES & COCKS LIMITED,
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Christmas Hours

HALIBURTON FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE

7217 Gelert Rd. (beside Haliburton Hospital)

FRI., DEC. 24th 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

MON., DEC. 27th CLOSED

TUES., DEC. 28th CLOSED

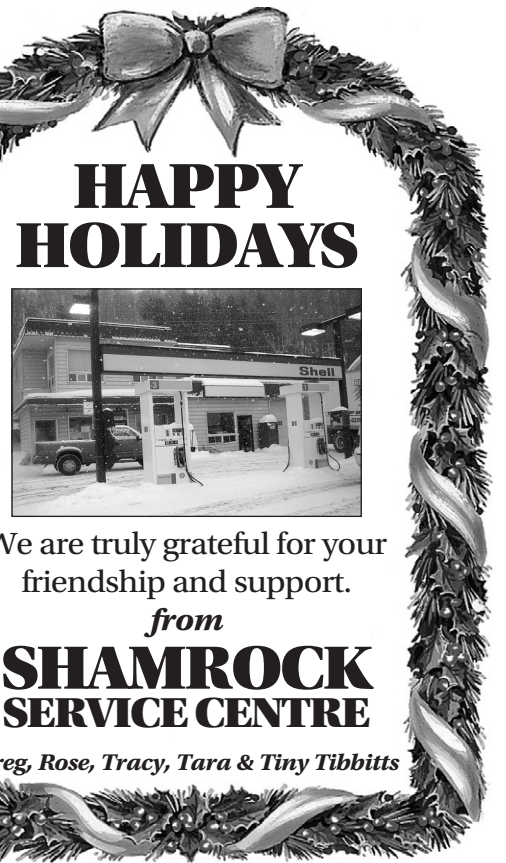
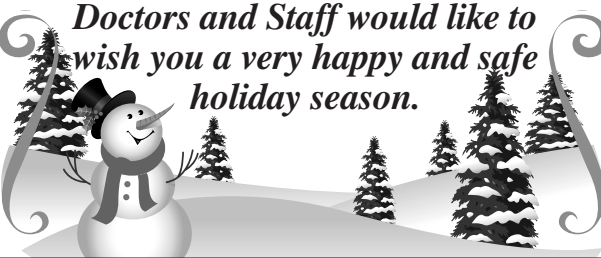
WED., DEC. 29th CLOSED

THURS., DEC. 30th CLOSED

FRI., DEC. 31st 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

MON., JAN. 3rd CLOSED

*Doctors and Staff would like to
wish you a very happy and safe
holiday season.*



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



We are truly grateful for your
friendship and support.

from
**SHAMROCK
SERVICE CENTRE**

Greg, Rose, Tracy, Tara & Tiny Tibbitts

Season's Greetings



The staff and management would like to take this
opportunity to thank all of those that supported us this year.

EMMERSON LUMBER LTD.

63 MAPLE AVE., HALIBURTON 457-1550 www.emmersonlumber.com

HOLIDAY HOURS

FRI 24TH- CLOSED AT NOON
SAT 25- CLOSED
SUN 26-CLOSED
MON 27-CLOSED
FRI 31ST- CLOSED NOON
SAT JAN 1-CLOSED

From Our Home to yours

Wishing you
a Merry
Christmas and
a safe and Happy
New year



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Season's Greetings from Haliburton Foodland

T'was the Night before
Christmas...
and all through

Foodland,

Bob, Wendy and staff
were lending a hand,
To last minute shoppers
who rushed to and fro,
Stomping off their boots
coming in from the snow!
They helped them find turkey
stuffing and yams,
Dinner rolls, cranberries,
fresh veggies and hams!

With main course taken care of
time to look for some sweets,

They stopped by the bakery
Julie was baking yummy treats !
There were pies, cakes and cookies
chelsea buns and butter tarts,
It all smelled SO delicious
they piled up goodies in their carts!
Over to the deli

to pick up trays of meats an cheeses
Everyone will look for seconds
while they say their "thanks and pleases"!

Along the aisles they rushed,
gathering all that they would need,
For the finest Christmas feast
Oh, the finest feast indeed!

Brad helped them find candy canes,
to decorate the tree,

An assortment of chocolates,
some for you and some for me.

The carts they were loaded,
right up to the brim.

It was time to 'check-out'
go home and wait for "him".

They breezed through the checkouts,
the lines weren't very long.

Carried groceries to their cars,
while they hummed a merry song
Happily they drove away,
to places far and near,

**Have a safe and Happy Christmas
and a Wonderful New Year!**

HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec 22 & 23 7am - 9pm

Christmas Eve 7am - 6pm

CLOSED - Christmas Day

OPEN BOXING DAY 7am - 5 pm

Dec 27 & 28 7am - 7pm

Dec 29 & 30 7am - 9 pm

New Year's Eve 7am - 6 pm



The Park Family - Bob, Wendy, Julie, Danielle and Brad



Deli



Meats & Seafood



Bakery



Produce



Service



Grocery

Haliburton Foodland



DEC. 24
Enjoy Free
Van Houtte
Coffee
7am - 6pm



Wishing you a safe & happy holiday!

WEST GUILFORD TOWING

CAA 705-754-3780 GM Roadside ASSISTANCE

Merry Christmas To All

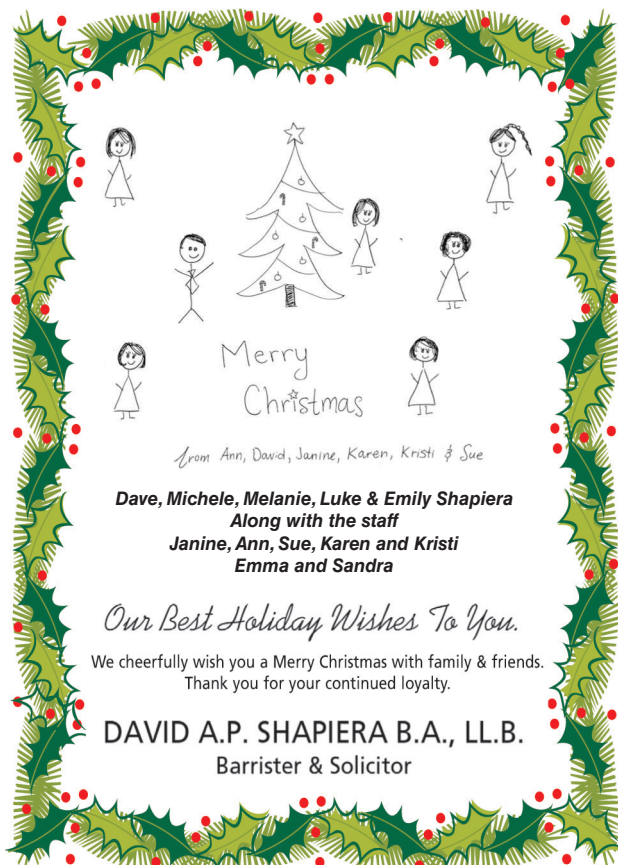


Come & see our NEW 2011 line of snowmobiles!

Your loyal patronage is greatly appreciated.

Thanks! from George, Heidi and Staff

HALIBURTON OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT LTD. 705-754-9262 **YAMAHA**



Merry Christmas

from Ann, David, Janine, Karen, Kristi & Sue

Dave, Michele, Melanie, Luke & Emily Shapiera
Along with the staff
Janine, Ann, Sue, Karen and Kristi
Emma and Sandra

Our Best Holiday Wishes To You.

We cheerfully wish you a Merry Christmas with family & friends.
Thank you for your continued loyalty.

DAVID A.P. SHAPIERA B.A., LL.B.
Barrister & Solicitor



The late Murray Wruth, patrolman with Patrol 12 Haliburton with Wayne Toye, patrolman with Patrol 11 Minden in January, 1985. /Submitted by Ruth Wruth.

Christmas behind the plow

By Ben Weese - Huntsville

'Twas the night before Christmas
And the highways were bare
They'd been plowed by the best
With caution and care.
The sanders were snuggled away for the night
In hope that St. Nick would soon make his flight.
But the forecast was calling for sleet and for snow
And District 11 was ready to go.
A call was received in late hours of night,
From a jolly old man with concern for his flight
The district dispatcher, alerted the crew,
With a desperate plea, "help Santa get through!"
Men scrambled to work and finally, thank heaven,
The way was made clear by District 11.



Our Best Wishes

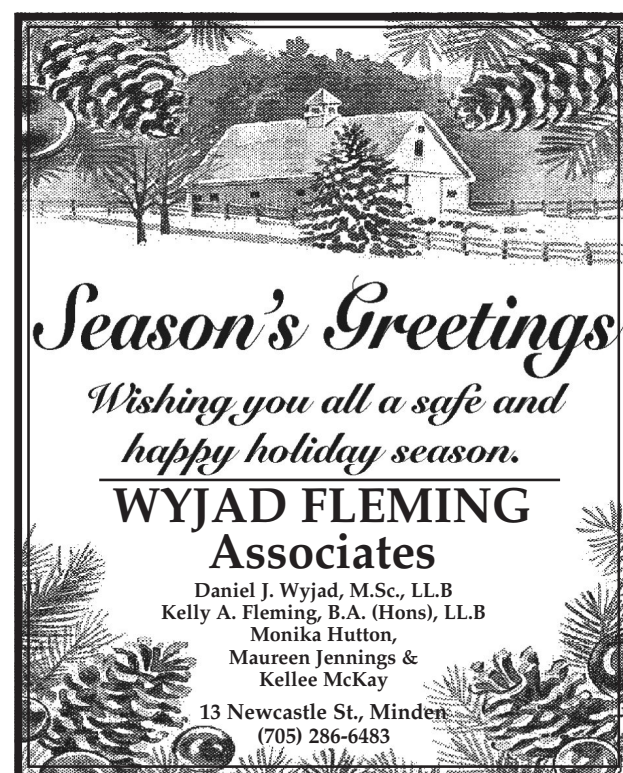
to all our friends & patrons for a safe & happy holiday.

Thank you for your continued patronage & we look forward to serving you in the New Year!

Gift Certificates Available!

MAGIC TOUCH DAY SPA

Stedman's Mall, Lower Level, 457-5043
28 York St., Haliburton



Season's Greetings

Wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season.

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Daniel J. Wyjad, M.Sc., LL.B.
Kelly A. Fleming, B.A. (Hons), LL.B.
Monika Hutton,
Maureen Jennings &
Kellee McKay

13 Newcastle St., Minden
(705) 286-6483

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from Merrill, Merrie, Lance, Debbie, Ron and Mike at Merrill Barry Co. Ltd



Make holiday eating habits healthier

Holiday eating habits are often characterized by overindulgence. From the first taste of turkey on Thanksgiving Day till the last pig in blanket hors d'oeuvre on New Year's Eve, holiday eating habits are not always healthy.

Unhealthy eating and overindulgence during the holidays is something many people accept as a staple of the season. But it's just as easy to enjoy a healthy diet during the holidays as it is to go overboard. All it takes is a nip and tuck here and there to make holiday eating habits healthier.

- Contribute healthy items when attending social gatherings. Instead of contributing another batch of holiday cookies, bring a healthy dish, like a large salad that makes for a great appetizer or a low-fat and low-calorie dessert that everyone can enjoy.

- Don't forget vitamins and minerals. When cooking during the holiday season, add more healthy foods to existing recipes to make up for any lost nutritional value. Include more vegetables in the menu, and don't be afraid to add nuts, fruits or beans to meals as well.

- Limit alcohol consumption. Many drinks are high in calories, even if the drinks are four ounces or less. A 3.5-ounce martini, for instance, is well over 100 calories. When consuming alcohol during the holidays, limit yourself to one drink. It's not only safer to do

so, but it also benefits the waistline.

- Baste with broth. Holiday turkeys need to be basted, and arguably no baste is healthier than fat-free broth. Many recipes call for basting with fat drippings or sauces. But fat-free broth is a much healthier option, and might even taste better.

- Don't miss meals. Thanks to the hectic nature of the holiday season, it's easy to skip a meal or two here or there, especially if there's a holiday party later in the day. But skipping meals will only increase the likelihood of overeating at holiday gatherings, which, as mentioned earlier, often feature less healthy fare.



*From All of us at
First Student Canada*

*Wishing you a
Safe and Happy
Holiday Season!*



Holiday Greetings

May the coming season bring peace, joy and harmony for you and your loved ones.



**ROBERTS-AUSTIN
FUELS LTD.**

*Best Wishes from
Steve, Andrea, Brian, Jane, Mike, Alison & Rosie*

*Merry Christmas
from all the staff at*

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CLOSED • DECEMBER 24, 25, 26, 27TH
OPEN • TUESDAY DEC. 28, 29, 30TH - 8AM - 5:30PM
CLOSED • DEC. 31, JAN 1, JAN 2
OPEN • MONDAY JAN 3 8AM - 5:30PM

Benjamin Moore

Going green

Story by Steve Galea
Photos by Jenn Watt

It was Christmastime at the office and Chad and I were feeling the spirit – in this case from the eggnog.

"The folks in Haliburton County sure have been good to us this year," I said.

"They sure have," he belched. "I think we ought to give something back."

"But how can you repay a whole community?" I asked.

"We could quit writing," he answered.

"True, but to do that, we'd need to find another way to make money."

"Well," he said, after taking another long, hard pull on his jug of eggnog, "everyone also talks about the benefits of going green ..."

"You mean?"

"That's right," he said, "I think we should become elves!"

It seemed like a good idea at the time. After all, it was getting close to Christmas – the time when cheap elf labour is in high demand.

The transition wasn't all that difficult, either. All it took was a *Lord of the Rings* movie marathon, a visit to the Keebler Cookie website to study their elves and several mugs of spiked eggnog before Chad and I determined that we had what it took to be yuletide assets to Santa.

Sure, we were not tall, skinny or blond. Sure, we were not immortal. Sure, we weren't blessed with lightning speed,



Steve Galea and Chad Ingram try to give back to the community as elves – a la *Lord of the Rings* – not quite what Santa had in mind.

superb balance, unbridled optimism or incredible hand-eye coordination. Sure, we couldn't make cookies fit for human consumption. But we had something even more important than all of that – we had an eggnog-inspired dream, a couple of homemade long bows, gaudy green and red shirts and dollar store elf hats complete with pointy ears.

Our first order of business was slipping quietly through the woods to Santa's secret local hideout.

"What will we do when we see Santa?" Chad asked.

Perhaps it was a function of the eggnog wearing off, but I was no longer sure myself. I will confess that I still had a buck tag in my pocket and was harbouring dreams of a full shoulder Rudolph mount for the living room. And, I thought, since Chad was with me, at least I'd have help dragging it out of the bush

see SANTA page 13



Greetings of the Season

May you & your family enjoy a very happy and healthy holiday season.
It's been a pleasure serving you.
We look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.
Thanks for your kind patronage!

Bernt Fiebiger DD

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209 Highland Street,
Haliburton, ON

103 Main Street,
Bobcaygeon, ON



with you in mind at
Christmastime

May you and your family enjoy the many blessings that give true meaning to the holiday season. We feel privileged and blessed to have you as our neighbours.


FLOYD HALL LIMITED

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Don, Glenn, Eleanor, Judy Julie, Donna, Sara, Matt, Doug, Tracy, Lori & Tammy

To All of Our Wonderful Customers...

Happy Holidays

From
Management & Staff
at



Highland Street
Haliburton

Hwy 35
Minden



Santa finds the elves, confiscates their weapons and puts them to work in his workshop.

Santa puts Chad and Steve to work

from page 12

and field dressing it. Beyond that, however, I had not given our current predicament all that much consideration.

Thankfully, I didn't have to.

"What the ho, ho, ho are you guys doing here?" said a jolly voice from behind.

We turned around to see old Saint Nick himself – and he wasn't too happy.

"Look," he said. "I don't know how many times I have to say this to you Steve, but Rudolph and all the others are off limits. Check the hunting regulations; reindeer are protected here in Ontario!"

With that, the Jolly Old Elf confiscated our long bows and took us to his secret workshop where he put us through a series of employee aptitude tests.

"Well? How did we do?" Chad said, as he handed Santa another two-wheeled unicycle.

"Have you guys ever considered applying at Keebler?" Santa answered. "I hear they need taste testers."

He then explained that, although Chad and I met the minimum height requirements for Santa's Elven workforce, our toy making talents weren't exactly up to snuff. "You don't have the skill to sharpen pencil crayons," he specified.

"But can't you do some magic?" Chad said. "You know, to make us better toy makers."

The old fellow scratched his white beard and mumbled,



Steve and Chad try their hand at guitar making in Santa's workshop with the help of a little magic.

"Sure but ho, ho, ho! I can only pay minimum wage. And it is seasonal work."

Chad and I looked at each other, then at Santa, and nodded. "OK," Santa said. "Don't ask for benefits or vacation time either."

It was just like working at the newspaper. Before long, Saint Nick was showing us the ins and outs of making guitars.

"These are for the good kids," he smiled.

"What do the bad kids get?" I asked

"This year, they get an oboe," Santa said. "I haven't had to

make one yet though."

And so, we began the long and arduous apprenticeship process of learning how to make Christmas gifts. At first, Santa made us practice by refurbishing an old guitar. Two hours later he returned to check our progress.

"Hey that's a passable drum," he said. "Now where's that guitar I gave you to finish?"

"Uh, you're looking at it," we announced.

"Did I mention that you're on a three-month probationary

see 'HO, HO' page 14



Santa celebrates a job well done.



'Ho, ho, hold it boys'

from page 13

period?" Santa replied.

The rest of the morning was spent building a brand new guitar under Santa's watchful eye. True, he helped a bit by cutting, gluing and lacquering, sanding, inlaying, tuning and polishing the thing. But Chad and I handed him tools and stayed out of his way, just like he said all the good elves do.

After we had finished the guitar, I looked at Chad and said, "You know, this seems an awful lot like work."

"Yes," he answered. "Once, while watching Santa assemble it, I almost broke out in a sweat."

"Me too," I muttered. "That's something we've never done as journalists."

We were just deciding how we felt about this new experience when Santa looked over and said, "Hey boys, the reindeer pens need cleaning and since you guys are the least senior elves"

Chad and I were out the door before he finished the sentence.

"Ho, ho, hold it boys," Santa called out. "Where are you going?"

We then confessed that we were not cut out to be elves after all. "It's far too much work," I muttered.

"I can't take this kind of pressure," Chad yelled.

"What pressure?" Santa said. "I've been very kind, patient and supportive."

"I was talking about the tights," Chad clarified.

"We'd like to resign," I announced.

"That's fine," Santa said. "It's no big deal really."

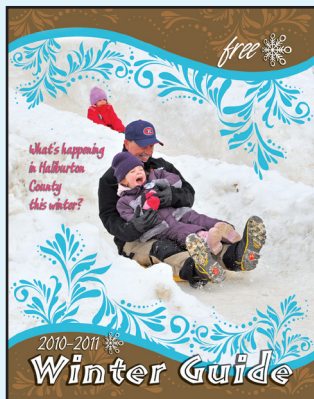
"You don't mind?" Chad said.

"Fiddlesticks no," Santa answered. "Now you boys will have to excuse me. I've got a couple of oboes to make."

Hey kids, before we left, Santa said that he's so proud to see so many good girls and boys out there this year. He also wanted us to tell you how excited he is about Christmas and to remind everyone that he's still keeping a list and he'd love it if everyone stayed on the "nice" side of it. So be good, make sure the chimney is clean and the milk and cookies are ready. Santa will be here soon! Anyone want to trade a guitar for an oboe?



After an afternoon of making toys with Santa, Chad and Steve give the jolly elf a parting gift – a big hug!



**Wondering what to do
this winter?
Pick up your
free copy of the
2010-2011 Winter Guide**

Happy Holidays
Your business is always appreciated. Thanks.
We look forward to seeing you in 2010.

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Merry Christmas

*Sending you
a bouquet
of best wishes
for the holidays.
Your continued
patronage
keeps us
blooming.*

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Homemade fixings can be a nutritious alternate to usual holiday gift-giving

If you have heard about home for the holidays, then try homemade for the holidays when preparing presents this year.

Homemade food gifts can be a great way to serve up a healthy treat for a loved one in a unique, memorable way, says Rosie Kadwell, a registered dietitian with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

"In these times of job losses or reduced work hours, many people are watching their budgets," she says. "Making a homemade gift that involves food is not only cost-effective, but shows friends and family that you appreciate them and care about their well-being."

Going the homemade route can also be a meaningful alternative for people who are tired of all the commercial gift-giving that comes with the holidays, Kadwell says.

To serve up healthy homemade gift items, people should consider these ideas:

- Buy a tin at the dollar store and fill it with healthy trail mix or the ingredients for a healthier cookie recipe, and then include the recipe.

- Buy a basket and fill it with different fruits from your local market or store that carries

local or Ontario-grown vegetables and fruit. Top it off by wrapping with a beautiful ribbon and heart-warming card.

- Fill a baking pan or mixing bowl with whole-wheat flour, dried fruit, nuts, a whisk and tasty lower-fat recipe for muffins or bread.

- Fill ornamental bottles and jars with healthy foods. Homemade soup mix, fruit crisp topping, or flavoured mustards fit nicely into jars and can be topped with a favourite recipe.

- Use special paper to prepare an invitation for a nutritious four-course meal after the holidays.

- Prepare a hot chocolate with milk, or a latte using strong coffee and milk, and serve with a cinnamon stick and special note for a loved one.

- Sponsor a monthly Good Food Box for a family in your community, or make a monthly donation to support a local student nutrition program. Call the health unit to find out about programs that are offered in your community.

- Buy a subscription to a healthy cooking

magazine, a cookbook containing recipes or a gardening book to grow your own vegetables.

"Whether for loved one, a child's teacher, a colleague at work or the person who has everything, a bit of creativity and fun with food can lead to a nutritious gift that is truly appreciated," Kadwell says.



The Spirit of the Season



The spirit of giving is upon us. May you always be offered the gift of love.

Dr. Rene Benoit, Terri & Peggy

Dreaming of you this Holiday Season...



Wishing all of our customers and friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Fabulous New Year ~ We feel truly blessed to have you in our lives.

Carol, Bob & Bill



Sending our Warmest Wishes to our Customers friends and family this

Holiday Season

HEARTFELT THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT IN 2010 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL 2011

Jane, Wade, Family & Staff at

THE PUMP SHOP



Winterfest 2011

Seriously Cool Fun!
in Haliburton County
February 15-17, 2011



Winterfest Games Organizing Committee Would like to....

*Wish you and your family a Happy and
Safe Holiday Season!*



Thank you to the Haliburton Highlands Community for your incredible support!

*Last Minute Stocking Stuffer Idea:
Register a friend or family member as a
Winterfest 2011 Volunteer!*

Register online @ www.winterfest2011.com or call 457-1333

To find out more on this exciting event please visit
www.winterfest2011.com or

Call 457-1333 or visit the Winterfest 2011 Office
located @ 739 Mountain Street, Haliburton, ON.



www.winterfest2011.com

Ontario Senior Games - Winterfest 2011



Haliburton businesses deck their halls

The Curry Motors showroom includes a meticulously trimmed tree this year.

Santa presides over the fresh salads at Haliburton Foodland.



**Wishing you
a Blessed
Christmas &
New Year**

Master's Bookstore
Kathy, Ruth & John
Village Barn 705 457-2223

*Wishing You Nothing
But The Finest This
Holiday Season...*

...a gourmet coffee, tea or hot chocolate
on a snowy morning

...a scrumptious lunch
on a busy afternoon

...a candlelight
dinner on a
romantic evening

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from the management and staff at*

rhubarb.

Wine Pairing December 31, 5pm - 8pm
Open January 1, 5pm - 8pm

21c
shop • cafe • cater
FINE FOODS
Haliburton

aniz

Open December 31, 5pm-8pm

All Restaurants will be closed December 25 & 26



Cordell's windows were painted by staff member Wendy Pringle. The window changes by the season.



The dining room of Aniz includes a very creative Christmas tree. Is that a whisk on the tree?

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
to all our devoted customers and their "little friends"
Carl & Chris Lang

447-2229
Weimar Kennels

Greetings of the Season
Wishing you and yours a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Murray Fearrey
Reeve Municipality of Dysart et al

Blessings of the Season

a heartfelt
thank you
to all our clients
for their
patronage this
past year.
Our office
will be closed
from
Thursday,
December 23, 2010
to
Monday,
January 3, 2011
(inclusive)
Ray, Marilyn, Laurie, Sharon & Glenda
LAW OFFICE
Raymond Selbie & Staff

Season's Greetings

Warmest Wishes
for the
Holiday Season
and a Happy New Year
from the staff at

**JOHN E. FRANCIS FUELS
HEATING & COOLING**

Ted, Ingun, Kim,
Craig, Jamie & Adam
Thank you for a
wonderful year!



At left, 212 decorated their tree in a creative and unique way, and upstairs at the bar, below, is very festive.



A snowman welcomes shoppers into the West Guilford Shopping Centre.

“Behold, the Lamb of God.”

John 1:29

May the light of love and joy shine
on you and your family throughout the year.
God bless you.



**HALIBURTON
VETERINARY SERVICES**
Dr. Laurie Brown & Staff

People Everywhere
Share The Dream
Of Peace

This special season, we join with all faiths to pray that the world continues on its way toward realizing that dream.

Happy Holiday
Thank you for your continued support.
Gord, Kathryn and Debbie
**HALIBURTON & MINDEN
HEARING SERVICE**

Friendship. Goodwill. Support.
We have a lot to be grateful for this holiday season. Thanks to the local businesses who provide us with dedicated service throughout the year.
Holly & John, Lakeview Motel

Happy Holidays

The staff at BMO Bank of Montreal would like to wish everyone a safe & happy holiday season.

We would especially like to thank our valued customers for helping BMO Bank of Montreal to become the bank of choice in Haliburton County.

BMO Bank of Montreal



Clockwise from above, this little boy is having a grand time with Saint Nick (1990); Girl Guide Janet Smith meets Mrs. Claus; Stephanie Sales is stoic on Santa's lap (1981); and a couple of kids read out their wish list to the man in red.



Christmas in days gone by

Kids have visited Santa in the Highlands for decades. Here are some favourites from the Echo Christmas archives.



From Our Family to Yours...
Warmest Wishes this Holiday
Season and throughout 2011

TOM PRENTICE & SONS
TRUCKING

we love the holidays too!



TODD'S
FOUNDED & OPERATED BY
independent
YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER



Above, kids' Christmas art, proudly displayed.



At right, a host of children sing Christmas carols at the old Victoria Street school in 1976.



At left, these girls had a good laugh with Santa (1990).

*With Our Thanks
at the Holidays*
We really appreciate your shopping with us this past year.

From All of the Staff at
The West Guilford Shopping Centre

*Bill & Edna, Chad & Stephanie, Cori,
Trevor Chase & Ellie, Pat Morrison,
Rhonda Shaw, Chris Chumbley,
The rest of the Gang*

Thank You!

*Freda and I would like to
take this opportunity to
wish you all a*
**Happy and Safe
Holiday Season**
*Serving the people of Dysart
has been a privilege and a
pleasure and
I will cherish it forever.*

*Bill Davis
Deputy Reeve
Dysart et al*

Rick Johnson MPP

*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year*

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Warm up with streusel

Pastries are ideal treats when stepping in from the winter cold. Coupled with a cup of coffee or a hot cup of tea, pastries can be just the thing to shake off the winter weather when the mercury keeps dropping.

Those hoping to warm up this winter should consider the following recipe for "Blackberry Streusel Tart" from Emily Luchetti's "Classic Stars Desserts" (Chronicle Books).

Blackberry Streusel Tart

Serves six to eight

- 1 1/2 pints blackberries
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch or tapioca flour
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 9 1/2-inch tart crust

Streusel

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- Pinch of kosher salt
- 3 ounces cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 recipe Chantilly cream (see box)

To make the streusel: In a food processor, combine the flour, brown sugar, salt, and butter and pulse until the butter is the size of large peas. Sprinkle evenly over the blackberry filling.



Blackberry streusel tart

Bake until the streusel is browned and the fruit is bubbling, about 25 minutes. Let the tart cool until it can be handled, then remove the pan sides and place on a platter. Serve warm or at room temperature, with chantilly cream on the side.

Planning ahead:

The streusel made be made two days in advance, covered and refrigerated. The tart is best served the day it is made. Store at room temperature. You may reheat the tart in a 325 F oven for 10 minutes. PC111266

Chantilly Cream

- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar

Put the cream, vanilla and sugar in a bowl and whip by hand with a whisk or with an electric mixer on medium speed until soft peaks begin to form. The cream should hold its shape but still be very smooth.

Cover and refrigerate until serving.

Planning ahead: You can whip the cream an hour or two in advance, cover and refrigerate it. If it sits longer than that, it will start to thin out and you will need to rewhip it lightly before using. A few quick stirs with a whisk will do the trick.

*Wishing You Much
Harmony And Joy
At Christmas*

Thanking all our Clients for another excellent year, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

From Steve, Don, Ann, John, Don S., Curtis, Gavin & Matt

**DON BARKER
HEATING & COOLING**

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**HO...HO...
HOPE IT'S
MERRY!**



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Haliburton 457-1411

Bob, James, John, Eileen, Ted, Kevin & Families



**Laurie Burk's
Hairstyling In
Your Home**

Season's Greetings

to all my clients, family & friends

All the Best for 2011

Laurie, Ross & family.

**Delivering
Happy Holidays**

to our Customers,
Family & Friends

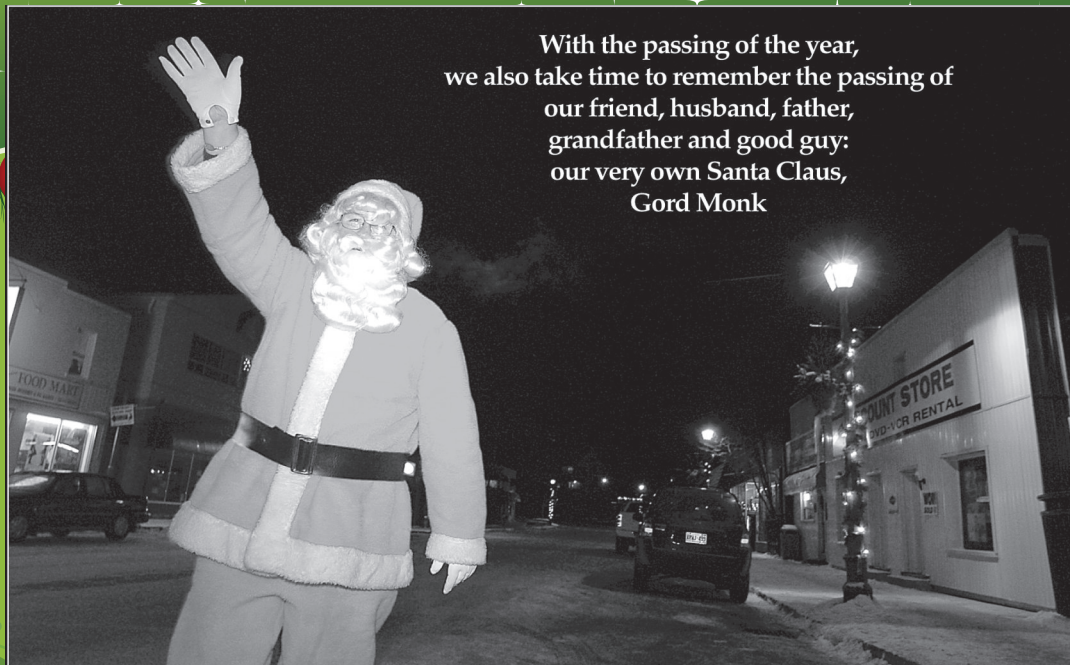
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With the passing of the year,
we also take time to remember the passing of
our friend, husband, father,
grandfather and good guy:
our very own Santa Claus,
Gord Monk



May every family be blessed with such wonderful memories.

THE MONK & CRAY FAMILIES

Maybelle's amazing Christmas, don'tcha know

Well, if ol' Maybelle isn't so excited about Christmas my hair is sprouting tinsel, don'tcha know. Either that or it's shining extra bright with holiday fever.

Yes, I love this time of year, and can't help thinking about how special last year's Christmas was here at Lake Whaddyat-hinklmean. Why all my good friends came by with food and hugs and just good old fashioned holiday spirit.

Even Sybil Beaucannon-Hughes came all the way from the far reaches of the most northern part of south Whitby, hauling a 24-foot Christmas tree tied to the back of a fire truck, don'tcha know. And if she didn't come with six buffed volunteer firefighters and mistletoe stuck to her head, to boot.

And it wasn't just luck that Twindle Mumbly's homemade salmon moose was scrumptu-licious! Why he worked a whole day removing those antlers.

Vilma Yuccch came with a different kind of treat. She wore big over-sized red sequin diapers over a one-piece pair of red tie-dyed long johns and sang "Santa Baby" while Beanpole Starkman accompanied her on his comb.

But the biggest treat of all came from Bogart.

Why just after Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom popped a 26-pound totally cooked turkey out of his new and improved Stanley McBottom Christmas Turkey Simulator ... Bogart put bottle caps on the bottoms of his paws and tap danced into the living room!

And not just an awkward big bear kind of tap dance. Bogart became Fred Aster and Ginger Rodriguez rolled into one.

Why Vilma Yuccch got so excited she coughed up half of her pecan crumble ... and if Officer McB didn't film the whole thing on his cellphone and put it up on YouTube right then and there.

Bogart wasn't a bear anymore. He was Gene Kelly dancing around a lamppost in Singin' on the Range, only the lamppost was my six-foot floor lamp, don'tcha know.

And if the phone didn't start ringing off the hook Christmas day and Boxing Day ... and it's still ringing. And the emails?!

Goodyness gracious. Why Bogart's mailbox filled up just 20 minutes after he was dancing on the YouTube. And if that little digitalis film of him dancing didn't go viral and all.

Why Bogart's a celebrity ... who nobody knows!

Imagine ... even some body from the David Letterperson show called all the way from New York City wanting Bogart to dance into people's living rooms. And when Prince William's secretary phoned inviting him to dance at the wedding, well I got so fluster-gated, my mouth flew open like a broken glove compartment, don'tcha know.

Even Ellen Degenuine and Oprah Wingfreed were fighting to see who'd get him on her show first. It got perdy darn crazy, I can tell you, 'til I set everybody straight. I told them...Bogart's happy dancing right where he is, thank you very much.

And the best news of all ... Bogart really IS happy right here in Lake Whaddyathinklmean. I know because he told me. That's right. He turned on his Stanley McBottom Thought/Voice Synthesizer Tam o' shanter hat so I could hear what he was thinking. And this is what he said...

Mama Maybelle, David Letterman would have been fun to meet. Ellen DeGeneres, too. And Oprah offering me a honey farm, well, that was pretty hard to turn down. And dancing at Prince William's wedding ... WOW! But I'm just a small town bear. Even though the grass in our backyard is covered with snow, I know it's greener than any other place on earth. I'm happy being a big bear on a small lake, and I'm happy being here with you.

Well if ol' Maybelle's heart didn't grow the size of that Christmas tree. And it's a real good thing I don't wear mascara because I woulda looked like one big ol' raccoon with all the tears dripping from my eyes.

Yes, it sure was an extra special Christmas. And I feel so grateful that with all the attention Bogart got it didn't go to his head. Oh, excuse me a second, here he comes now.

Bogart, what's that you're wearing? Dark glasses? A black t-shirt? What? What's that you say?

Hey, Mama M ... Let's do lunch!

Maybelle's



Fireside stories



From Everyone at
Dr. Smolen's Office

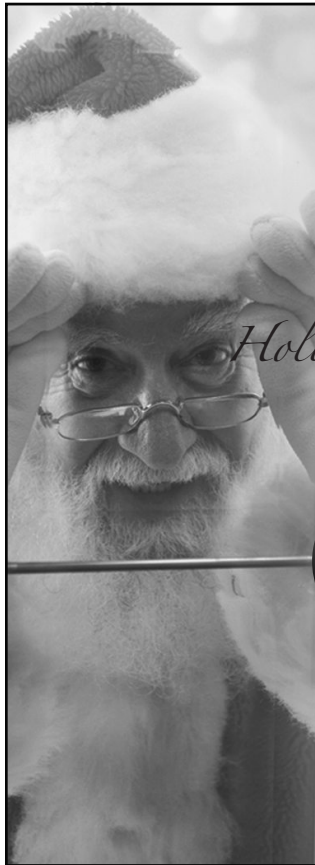
Ed, Alison, Ann, Brenda,
Caity, Christine, Danielle,
Michelle and Shelley

Blessings of the Season

We always look forward to this time of the year. It is our opportunity to tell you how much we appreciate your patronage. May the New Year bring health, happiness & success. — Joe & Heather Roberts, family & staff

The Nutcracker 2010

Photos by Tim Tofflemire
toffphoto.com

*Sending
Warm Wishes
Your Way this
Holiday Season.....*

**NORTHERN
EXPOSURE**

Windows and Doors
Ivan & Brenda
Doiron

Giving winter a warm welcome...



**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year to all.**

Looking forward to meeting and
serving you in the future,

Carol Jamieson LL.B

15 Newcastle St., Minden • 705-286-2611

**...And To All
A Good Night!**

May all your dreams come true
during this magical season.
We couldn't have wished
for better friends than you.
Thanks for everything!

Barry & Kendra
and the families of

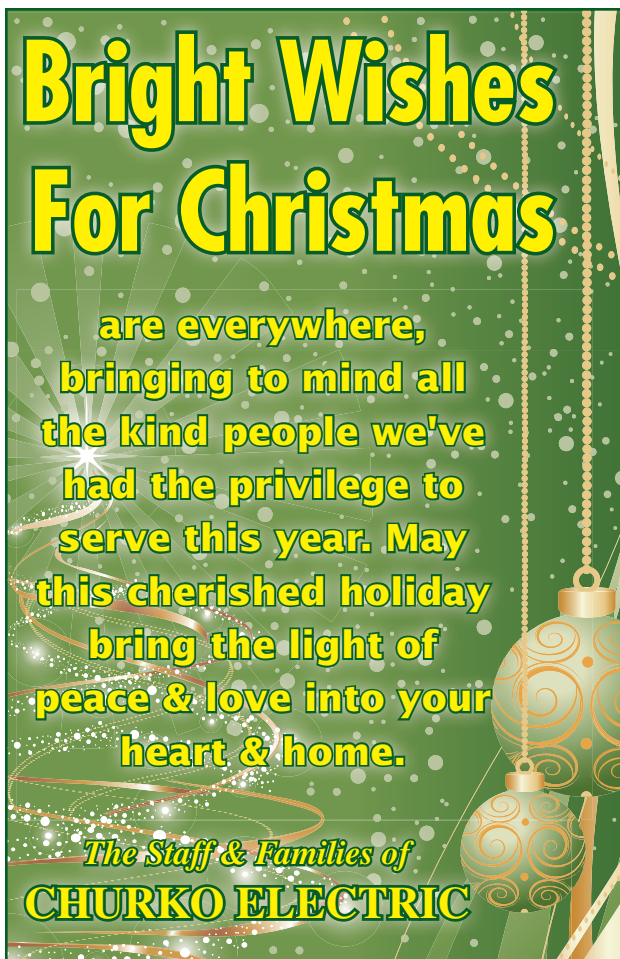
BLAIR
Sand & Gravel



**Bright Wishes
For Christmas**

are everywhere,
bringing to mind all
the kind people we've
had the privilege to
serve this year. May
this cherished holiday
bring the light of
peace & love into your
heart & home.

The Staff & Families of
CHURKO ELECTRIC




Curtis Eastmure Shawn Hagerman Adam Hagerman

Jane Johnston Susan Nicholson
Office Administrator Lic. Admin. Assistant

**Season's
Greetings**

*Wishing you
and yours
a safe and happy
holiday season.*

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DIV. OF PLANNED BENEFITS INC.

HALIBURTON

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The dancers surround the Nutcracker above.
Raggedy Ann and Andy, below, dance across the stage.



The five main dancers in Pas de Cinque, the Snow Queen, the Sugar Plum Fairy, Spanish Chocolate, Arabian Coffee and Dew Drop.



Above, the Snow Queen from the land of snow.
At left, the soldiers, lined up, collapse in a domino effect.

Seasons Greetings

and Best Wishes in the New Year from the staff and families of

MISCIO CONSTRUCTION

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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THE SOURCE

Yuletide Greetings

With wishes warm and bright to you and your family this Christmas. Your loyal business is always appreciated.

Sharp Electric

Del & Darlene, Gerald & Krysta, Jenni, Ron, Bill, Robert, Sean, Nathan, Jordan

Behind the scenes at The Nutcracker



Julie Barban, left, with dancer Loretta Kerr behind stage after the *The Nutcracker* show.

Hope your holiday is wonderful in every way. It's been a privilege & pleasure serving you this past year. Thanks!

Kirsten & Donna

Long Memorial

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To Our Valued Customers At The Holiday Season

The thing we value most about our business is the chance to meet people like you! Merry Christmas and much happiness to you this holiday season.

From All Of Us At

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An Old-fashioned Holiday Wish for You

May you & yours be blessed with joy, laughter, love, good health & good friends now & throughout the coming new year. It has been our pleasure to serve you & we look forward to seeing you again soon.

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Photos by Tim Tofflemire, toffphoto.com

Season's Greetings

You, our loyal customers, are the secret to our success. Thank you for doing business with us again this year. We wish you a safe and Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous 2011

G. Rowden Construction

Shakin' Up The Holiday Spirit



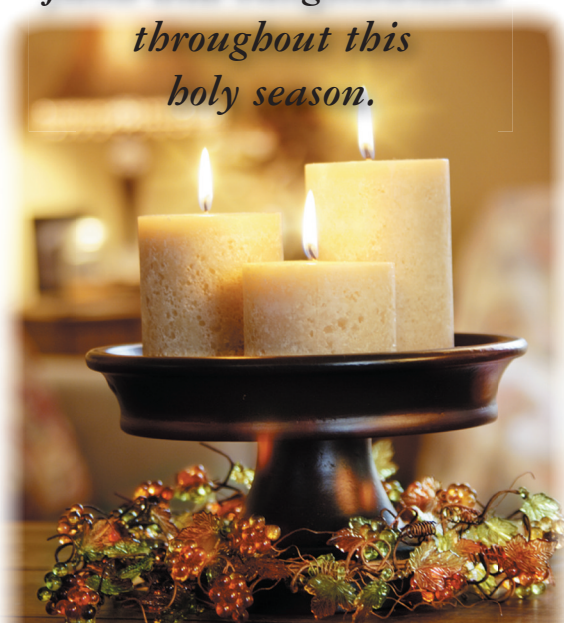
*Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season filled
with good times, good friends and good memories.
We thank you for your support this past year.
You've delivered us nothing but kindness,
and we hope we've done the same for you.*

Celebrating the Reason for the Season



Photo by Jack Bush

Wishing you and your family the gifts of peace, faith and enlightenment throughout this holy season.



DONALD POPPLE
LEONARD SALVATORI
JOE ILES
ANDY SALVATORI
MICHAEL ILES
ROBERT JOHNSTON
LEIGH BULL
ROBERT BULLOCK
LYNN TROKE
MARJORIE HOWARD
JEANNE ZAHN
DALE EMMERSON
JOHN MC NEIL
MARCEL CRETE
GARY WILLIAMS
BRUCE SWINSON
CLEVE SHAW
LARRY DACK
GARFIELD MILLER
BRIAN WOODLEY

MARK BARRY
GARRY BURK
AMANDA DOVELL
ALAN CLEMENT
NORM PERROTT
PAT ADAMSON
DOUGLAS WOODLEY
DAVID REID
MONICA KEEFER
BOB PORTER
WREN BILLINGS
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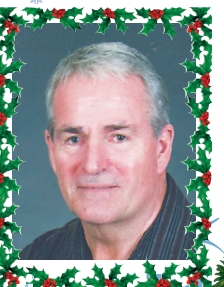
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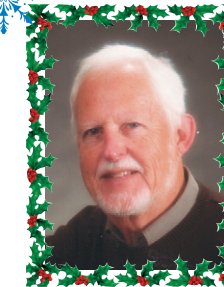
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The Staff of Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd. wishes to extend
Season's Greetings to all



Andrew Hodgson***
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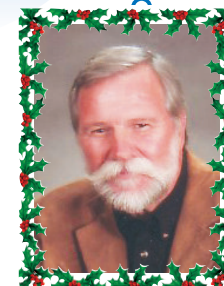
**Susanne James
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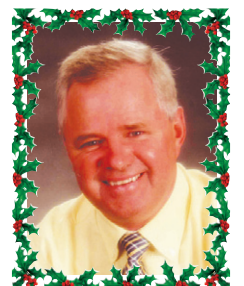
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Cathy McIlmurray,
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Kristin Withey,
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There's never been a better time to remember friends and express our appreciation for your business than during this special season of thankfulness.

Our very best wishes for peace, health and happiness in the year 2011

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\$18,995

A silver Dodge Grand Caravan minivan is shown from a front-three-quarter view. The vehicle features a prominent chrome grille with the Dodge ram logo in the center, large headlights, and fog lights in the front bumper. It has a sleek, aerodynamic design with a roof rack and side mirrors. The wheels are multi-spoke alloy rims. The background is plain white.

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DODGE



RAM

Dodge.ca/Offers



Strength and skill showcased

The Haliburton Highlands High School wrestling team won 13 medals (five gold, four silver and three bronze) at the Red Hawks-hosted wrestling event. It attracted 13 high schools and more than 250 athletes came from around the area, including Peterborough and Lindsay. Event organizers want to hold the invitational next year and to add more events to the schedule in the future.

Results:

Girls

Gold Medalists - Lily Coneybeare (64 kg), Kayla Gardiner (44 kg), Tara O'Sullivan (57.5 kg)
Silver Medalists - Megan Tompos (UNL), Bailey Walker (51 kg)
Bronze Medalists - Taylor Dair (UNL), Maia O'Sullivan (54 kg)

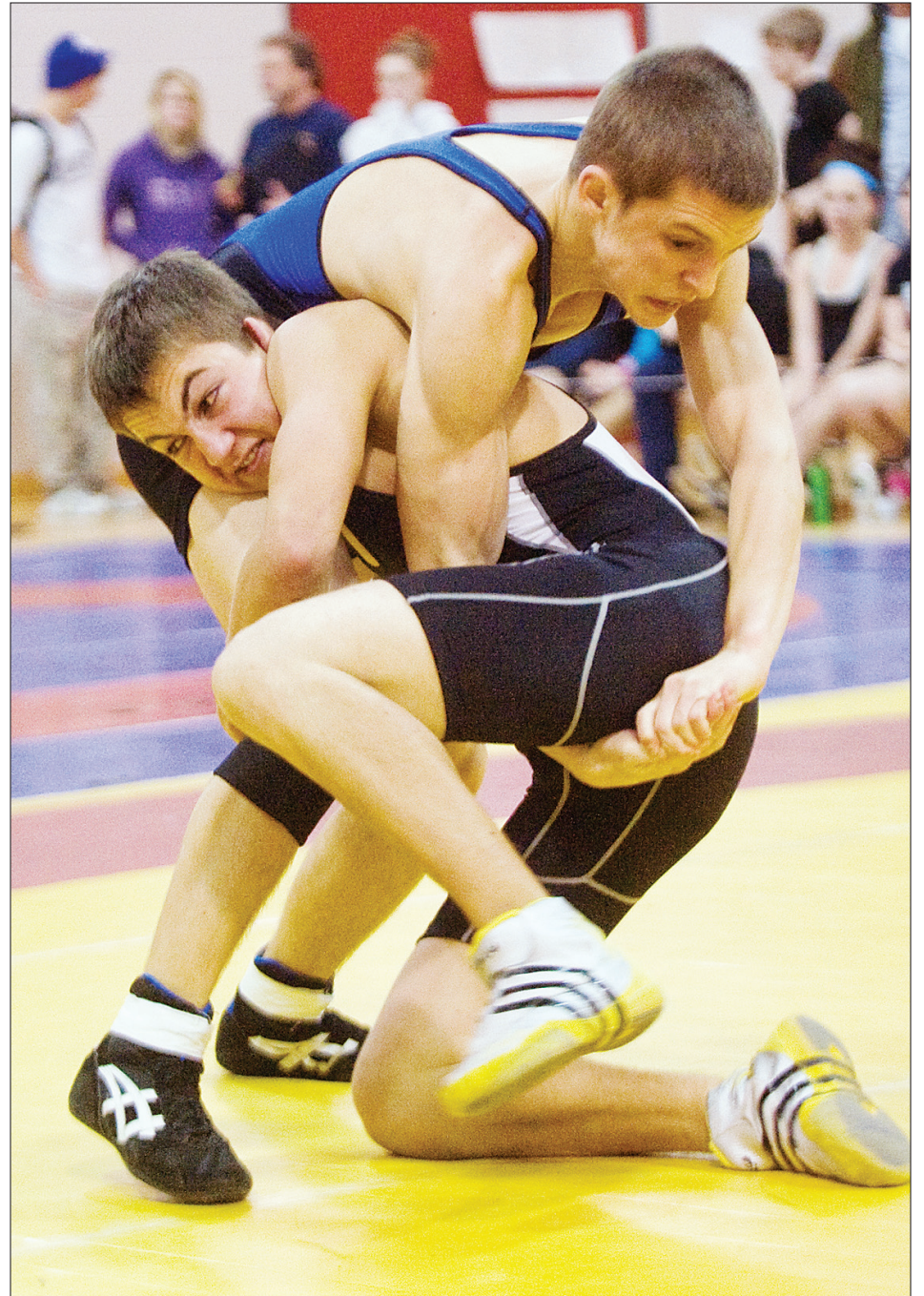
Boys

Gold Medalists - Cody Cox (54 kg), Riley Tait (77 kg)
Silver Medalists - Mike Mazara (54 kg), Gage Shelly (61 kg), Tom Paul (64 kg)
Bronze Medalists - Greg Baumgartner (72 kg)

Photos by Darren Lum
 For more photos: www.haliburtonecho.ca
 Keep up to date with sports and news through twitter: haliburtonecho



Clockwise from above: Tom Paul looks to lift his opponent Eric Nanckeville of Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute; Kayla Gardiner attacks her opponent Sara Hein of I.E. Weldon; Mike Mazara, in black, works against his opponent Aaron Brown of Crestwood Secondary School and Lily Coneybeare grapples with April English of I.E. Weldon in the 2010 inaugural Haliburton Highlands Wrestling Invitational.



Red Hawks soar short of comeback

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

It wasn't exactly the perfect way to head into the holiday break, but the junior boys' Red Hawks basketball team have a lot to be happy about after a close loss to the visiting I.E. Weldon Wildcats on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

The opening act to the basketball double-header was a nail biter.

Already down by seven points at the end of the first quarter (15-8), the Red Hawks played catch up for the rest of the game despite a strong presence under the baskets at both ends by Haliburton's towers of power Zack Cox, who also contributed a team high 15 points, and Nate Feir, who finished with six points and several steals, including one in the final minutes of the game that gave an opportunity to

narrow a three-point gap with a field goal.

After trailing by 12 points (13-25) at the halftime break, Haliburton found another gear to elicit vocal support from the partisan crowd, who had little reason to cheer after the second quarter.

Haliburton's turnaround was dramatic, resulting in a second half scoring shift that saw Haliburton outpace the Wildcats 23 -15.

Maybe it had something to do with the fire alarm that momentarily suspended play late in the second quarter, but whatever it was, the team came alive, giving Haliburton nearly double the fourth quarter scoring compared to the visiting Wildcats.

The bulk of the fourth quarter scoring came from three players: guard Tanner Ballantyne with four points, Cox with five points and teammate Louis Ferracuti with four points.

Haliburton finished the quarter, nearly doubling the Wildcats total 13-7.

The last quarter surge wasn't enough, as the Red Hawks could only draw as close as two points with just more than a minute left in regulation.

It's small solace as the team lost 40-36.

Coming into the game, the Wildcats were 3-1, and an obvious threat to advance in the playoffs so Haliburton will use this game to build upon, as they will play them again on Feb. 10.

However, a lot of positives came as a result to this fledgling team.

Haliburton enters the holidays with a misleading record of 1-4, as the team was edged out the day before in their home opener against Brock by the same margin of loss (56-52).

Although the Red Hawks were just shy of completing a great comeback, Haliburton showed effectiveness in exploiting the Wildcats' apparent weakness in working against the zone defence.

Ballantyne finished with 12 points, second only to Cox while guard Tanner Hamilton showed strong composure

and resilience even returning to play after leaving the floor, limping in the second half of the game.

Haliburton will host their next game against the Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute Spartans on Jan. 13.



Darren Lum Echo staff

Hawks player Tanner Ballantyne soars through the air in the team's second home league game of the season against the I.E. Weldon Wildcats on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

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Attention Parents & Grandparents

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in 2010

it's time to
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**Here's how to be included on
Wednesday, January 26, 2011**

The Haliburton Echo will publish a special page in **full colour** to show off the babies of 2010. Please fill out this form below and include photo and payment or stop by our office

Mon 9am - 5pm • Tues - Fri 9am - noon

Cost: \$25 (plus GST) each or \$45 (plus GST) for both.

Times & Echo Publications

Deadline for photos is **12 noon January 18, 2011**

Pre-payment required. We accept:

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Child's Name: _____

Date Of Birth: _____

Parent's Names: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

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Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

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Greyson Steven Rogers

He was born on Monday November 15 at 8:40 am,
weighing 6 pounds and 15 ounces!
Proud parents Sabrina and Ryan Rogers.

★ **Bonus!** ★

As an added bonus all submissions for this feature will be entered into a draw for a **free one year subscription** to The Haliburton Echo

Please bring it in to our office or send to:

The Haliburton Echo Minden Times
146 Highland St. 2 IGA Rd.
Haliburton ON K0M 1S0 Minden
Phone: (705) 457-1037 cthorn@mindentimes.ca

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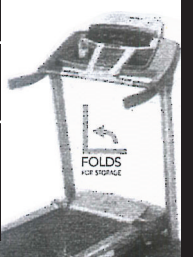


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Red Hawks' Duchene wins it for Lady Hawks 'hawkey' team

The following HHSS sports briefs were compiled by Judi Paul's class.

Dec. 10 and 11

The Red Hawk boys' curling team of Jesse, Owen, Mike and Shawn competed at the Gore Mutual Schoolboy Competition where they won the B finals and advanced to the regionals in February.

The Red Hawk girls' curling team competed at the Gore Mutual Schoolgirl Competition where they played three hard-fought games and lost to Thomas A. Stewart in Game 3.

Dec. 13

The Lady Hawks "hawkey" team defeated Norwood by a score of 7-5.

Megan Allore started and ended the scoring with a hat trick.

Jessica Duchene had an assist and two goals, one being the game winner.

Sam Tallman had a goal and two assists, while Julia Fedeski had one goal.

Great goaltending from Jillian Mayhew.

Dec. 14

The senior Red Hawks basketball team captured an impressive 45-22 victory against Brock. Luke Watson notched 19 points in the win to lead all scorers.

The junior boys' basketball team lost by a 56-52 score against Brock, despite dominating in the first half.

Dec. 15

The senior girls' volleyball team travelled to Peterborough to compete against TASS, Campbellford, Kenner and Norwood. The team split all sets.

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Darren Lum Echo staff

Red Hawks senior forward Jesse Lefebvre, who pulled down nine rebounds and finished with six points, jumps for a rebound against Wildcats players during the second quarter.

Red Hawks challenge league leaders

➤ Senior boys basketball team proves its worth, showing they are a team on the move

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

When you face a team that is arguably the best north of Barrie it's hard to feel like you've lost after losing by only five baskets.

The Red Hawks senior boys' basketball team is smiling after they achieved personal goals against the undefeated Kawartha league leaders the I.E. Weldon Wildcats on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Coach Roland Zilla said this game gives the Wildcats something to think about for the next time they square off again.

"It's all positive. That's like a win for us," Zilla said, referring to the game's margin of loss and the Wildcats' 50-point total.

This is the first time the Wildcats were limited to a single-digit margin of victory. Haliburton lost 41-32.

A poor start to the game didn't give rise to any notions of accomplishing anything though, as Haliburton surrendered 10 points in the first quarter and could only muster four points in response. The next quarter proved to be worse, as the Wildcats held the Red Hawks to two points despite scoring only eight of their own.

The half ended with the Red Hawks down 18-6.

"I was a little worried at halftime, thinking, oh, great. If they blow us out in the second half then it's like 36-12 that's a big loss," he said.

The slow start became the unshakeable albatross around the neck, proving to be the Red Hawks' downfall despite a second half surge led by some innovative coaching.

At the break, he said, his co-coach Dave Waito spoke to forwards Luke Watson and Jesse Lefebvre about running a high-low screen along the sidelines, which worked effectively and helped the team's ability to eventually outscore the Wildcats 24-22 for the entire second.

Zilla thought overall his team's zone defence made the Wildcats work.

"What our zone did was really make them work for their shot. They are a good team. At least they had to run some

clock to get a good shot, which reduces their number of chances ... that's key," he said.

However the lead the Wildcats were staked to was more than enough for the Lindsay squad to win.

With a few official calls that had the Red Hawks coaching staff up out of their seats, stalking the sidelines for answers, yelling words of disbelief, the game had an atmosphere of tension that reached its crescendo when Zilla received a technical foul just before halftime after a questionable foul.

While Watson, who actually led all Haliburton scorers with 10 points, might be faulted on missing a few easy lay-ups, his contribution in other areas more than made up for it as he led the team in rebounds with 12 (five offensive and seven defensive), followed closely by his teammate Jesse Lefebvre, who finished with nine rebounds (four offensive and five defensive). The next teammate closest to them had only three rebounds.

Red Hawks guard Allison finished with eight points, second on the team.

The Wildcats are now 5-0 on the league season and will face them again in the last game before the playoffs on Feb. 10.

After the Hawks the game Zilla said he spoke about the rematch date with his team and asked them how much better they will be then and what they will do to improve on refining defensive and offensive aspects of their game such as foul shots.

He owes the team's composure and maturity to seven fifth-year players, he said.

The coaching staff includes retired teacher Walter Tose, who is helpful in preparing players coming off the bench.

The team's next game is at home against the Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute Spartans on Jan. 13.



Darren Lum Echo staff

Red Hawks senior player Justin Levely arrives late to block a shot by a Wildcats player. Levely finished with three points and a steal in the loss 41-32.

More photos: www.haliburtonecho.ca

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Bantam girls rebound with three wins

The Minden Car Quest Bantam C girls rebounded this weekend snapping a two-game losing streak. The team's winning weekend consisted of three wins on the road; a double-header on Sat afternoon in Port Hope and then Saturday night in Cold Creek.

The weekend play wrapped up Sunday afternoon with the tail-end of the home-and-home with Port Hope. Our league record now stands at 14-2-2 and sitting in second place.

In game one, the girls escaped with a 1-0 win against Port Hope. Their flat performance almost cost them another loss but Erin Little scored the games only goal off a breakaway pass from Kelsy Maracle started by Jamie Little's break out.

In Game 2, McKinnon Casey started the scoring in Cold Creek. Nicole Black scored from a great feed from Alex Litwin off a near hat-trick miss. Alex stayed with the play passing to Nicole in the slot. Alex picked up the helper to go with her two-goal performance with the first being the game winner. Great rebound effort girls. Final score 4-0.

The third game of the weekend was a rematch with Port Hope.

The girls carried an aggressive edge into the game and never looked back. Maddie Billings pulled the trigger on a beauty wrister from the point to open the scoring. Sydney Feir had a two-goal night including the game winner. All defence - Maddie Billings, Maddie Allore, Jamie Little and Kennadal Marsden hit the score sheet. Connor Marsden had a hat trick of her own; three shut outs for the weekend (11 for the season) stopped at 1:42 left in the third period. Awesome weekend Storm girls.

No more home games for our league play but stay sharp girls as we finish our season with 4 road trip games ... heading into our "being bumped to B" provincial play-downs.

Submitted by Dan Marsden

see STORM page 32

Home & Cottage Services



Rail ride

A young snowboarder takes the rail slide in the first hour the snow park opened at Sir Sam's Ski Area on Saturday, Dec. 18.

Darren Lum Echo staff

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ENERGUIDE



Shoppers Drug Mart gives \$1,000 to Point in Time

Shoppers Drug Mart front store manager Breanne Mansfield, left and top leaf seller Mary Cross, centre, present Marg Cox, executive director of Point in Time with a \$1,009 donation.

The funds were raised through the Tree of Life Campaign. Donors had the option of purchasing a leaf for \$1, a butterfly for \$5 or a cardinal for \$50, with all proceeds going to the Point in Time camp fund.

"I want to extend my thanks to the support of the community," said Cox, "and to store owner Amy Mansfield for once again choosing Point in Time."

The camp fund is for children who would like to go to camp and would benefit from the experience but whose families cannot afford to send them.

Angelica Blenich Echo staff

Heading onward with resolve



Woman on Wheels
Annette McLeod,
QMI Agency
annette.mcleod@sunmedia.ca

This year, along with my usual New Year's resolutions to get fit and watch less television, I'm going to take a good, long look at my driving habits.

First, I resolve to stop playing fast and loose with my cellphone. I, of all people, should know better. I have read the research, interviewed the psychologists, and I know full well that it's not the handset that's the problem, per se; it's having a phone conversation, period.

It's easy for me to make use of Bluetooth technology. It's a simple matter of pairing a phone, then hitting a button and telling the magic lady in the dashboard to "dial Dad." Yet, still, I will sneakily check a text message when I'm stuck in traffic — I have even been known to jot a quick response if things are really moving slowly.

I am such a hypocrite; I will actually check a text, and then shoot a dirty look at the next person I see yapping on their hand-held. Shameless! It's time I stopped telling myself it's OK if I do it (i.e. not you) because I have considerable advanced driving training, am aware of the research, am an exception to the rule. I am not.

I resolve to turn off my text alert, leave my phone in my purse and, no matter how bored I get with the radio, stop

using the telephone as a time-killing boredom-reliever.

Second, I resolve to slow down. The fuel economy I get out of test cars is higher combined than the vehicle's city rating, almost every time. Not only do I spend more on gas, I'm not exactly being kind to the planet, am I? And I'm also making my vehicle harder to control should something bad happen.

Third, I resolve to stop treating my Grand Caravan like a giant purse with wheels. I started out well intentioned. Put a tarp in the back to keep the dog hair off; organized my CDs, baby wipes, umbrella and emergency blanket into nifty plastic totes; bought a pop-up garbage container thingy. Now, the tarp is rucked to one side, there's more hair on the upholstery than there is on the dog, the nifty containers runneth over and the map pocket is full of used Kleenex.

Finally, I resolve to be grateful. What an amazing time we live in. I drive a beautiful new car every week and use technology like adaptive cruise control, multi-stage airbags and ABS with barely a thought; I punch a button and call up a map that will not only tell me how to get where I'm going but will also tell me where to get a slice of pizza or a coffee; and, I punch another button or two and listen to whatever I need to get through the day, whether it's '80s hits, Cosmo radio or Maya Angelou.

Thank you, powers that be, for a wondrous world.

For more auto news go to www.autonet.ca.

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A life of learning and evolution

Carolynn Coburn was born in Toronto in 1947, and she is directly tied to the notable history of the Highlands by way of her father Lorne, who bought the Minden Drug Store from Agnes Jamieson, Sylvia Howard and Olga Myles in 1949.

Coburn's mother Grace was a professional contralto soloist who became the choir director for St. Paul's Anglican and the Minden United churches.

Carolynn Coburn attended Minden Public School and the high school. After two years at the high school she entered the Ontario Ladies College in Whitby, which prepared her for university. In 1969 she graduated with honours in botany and zoology from the University of Toronto.

"But on reflection I realized that I was more of a general-

ist than a specialist, and decided not to go to graduate school, because I wanted a wider focus," states Coburn. She quickly became involved in big social issues like burgeoning populations, and she also dealt with local Toronto issues. She successfully fought, with many others, against the building of the Spadina Expressway in Toronto, which would have cut through the heart of the city.

Interesting



People

george farrell

Still seeking to define herself professionally Coburn worked for a year at the School of Library Sciences at U of T, while also working occasionally as a substitute teacher. Teaching led to a fulltime return to U of T, and an eventual Bachelor of Education degree in 1971.

In 1972, Coburn married and moved to Norwich, England where she taught math and sciences. "During that period of my life I was basically following my husband, who was a chemist," says Coburn, "and after Norwich we moved to Montreal, where I worked at McGill University as a research assistant in the biology department until 1978."

Coburn followed her husband back to Canada; this time Mississauga, where she continued her work as a research assistant for 11 years. The marriage dissolved in 1988.

Moving forward and refocusing, Coburn applied to law school and graduated, (again from U of T), in 1991. She articulated in Mississauga and was called to the bar in 1996. It was decision time once more, and "I decided that I wanted to come back to where I grew up," she said. "For me, living in a small community is where I'm happiest. People are more likely to treat each other better when they see each other more often."

She set up practice in Minden in '96. Coburn specializes in wills and estates, and also does some work in the criminal court system for Legal Aid Ontario. In 1997, Coburn met her soulmate Eric Lilius, and the couple reside in West Guilford.

Having found her niche professionally Coburn did not forget her commitments to environmental and social issues, and she's been very active locally. In 1998 she started and chaired the county advisory committee for the environment, which led



Carolynn Coburn grew up in Minden, returning later in life as a lawyer with a bent for social justice. /George Farrell photo

to Environment Haliburton. She was a founding director of the Haliburton County Community Cooperative, and has been a volunteer/facilitator for the youth justice circles. She advocated, with Fay Martin, to get a community clinic for Haliburton County to serve people on low incomes, and Coburn is also active as a member of the Minden United Church.

In Haliburton County a strong core of people are very concerned with how we treat the environment and each other. Carolynn Coburn is one of those people. "I feel content living here and I'm grateful for the support of the community, yet I'm still concerned about the global environmental challenges, the growing gaps between people, and the general lack of sympathy for those who are less fortunate."

Coburn also believes that nowadays many people are too quick to react to certain situations. She thinks that they need to take time to reflect. Reflection, and a bit of soul searching before physical action, she says, can lead to "an essence, a universal consciousness in everybody that is more than just the physical."

It's a philosophy that has been evolving with Coburn her whole adult life, and it helps to define her. "I feel I'm still evol-

ing, and learning," she says. And while she realizes that maybe she doesn't have the wherewithal to influence the big picture, she feels that "we have to search for our own ways to build, [on the philosophy]. The only control I have is how I feel and what I do."

She's doing plenty.

Career Opportunity



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People of all ages sang and celebrated the Christmas season, at the Essonville Historic Church on the Essonville Line in Wilberforce for the annual Christmas service on Sunday, Dec. 19. Built in 1888, the church has always been a place for the community to come together in times of sorrow and joy.

Darren Lum Echo staff

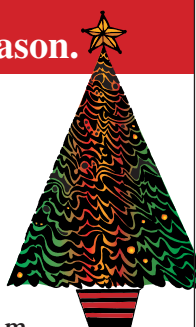
**The Municipality of Dysart et al
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NOTICE:
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To

Monday, January 3rd, 2011

The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 4th @ 8:30 a.m.



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All Landfills will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Notice of January 3rd, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLATION

Please take notice that the first Council meeting of January, normally to be held on January 3rd, 2011 is cancelled. The next meeting of Council will be held on January 10th, 2011 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office commencing at 9:30 a.m.

Special Christmas service held at Essonville Church

Wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play..." So goes the beginning of a favourite carol. And the bell did ring out both before and after the annual carol service at the historic church in Essonville on Sunday evening Dec. 19.

Accompanied by Elsie Lewis on the organ, familiar carols were sung by the large crowd in attendance. The service was led by Paul Way. Reeve David Burton gave the opening prayer.

Meaningful Christmas stories and poems were presented by Joan Noble, Brandon Coumbs, Paul Way and Lesley Finlay. Kathleen Peckford sang a delightful solo. Matthew O'Reilly read St. Luke's story of the birth of Jesus.

This very special service ended with a prayer by Elsie Lewis, a poem by Brandon and the singing of Silent Night.

At the afternoon part of the Christmas open house at the Outpost Historic House last Thursday over some hot apple cider and sweets Neil Campbell honored visitors with readings from his book *Sap Buckets and Cell Phones*. The evening session brought a crowd of children: members of the Sparks, Brownies, Guides and Path-

finders along with their leaders and family members. A fun evening of games, songs and food.

The community is saddened by the sudden death of Bud Friesman. He passed away Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010 at the hospital in Haliburton. He was in his 75th year. He was a kind and generous man. He will be remembered especially for his efforts in recent years in befriending feral cats. Through his and his wife Donna's persistence, provision has been made for unwanted cats to have decent care. Not only shelter and food are being provided, Bud had arranged with area vets to neuter and spay a number of them. In a recent conversation with Bud, he spoke so fondly of how these creature trusted Donna and him and would approach them when they went daily to tend them.

Our sympathy is extended to Donna and all of their family. A remembrance gathering will take place at a later date. Bud will be missed by many humans as well as his furry friends.

Thanks is extended to the *Echo* office staff for hosting a pleasant luncheon last Thursday. All the freelancers that write for the *Echo* and *Times* were invited. It was good meeting everyone there. Merry Christmas to them and to all who read this bit of news I manage to put together each week.



\$2,300 in toonies gathered at the till

Todd's Independent donated \$2,300 from Toonie at the Till campaign to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation last week. The fundraiser ran for a two week period ending Dec. 11. For every donation there was an entry placed in the box for a chance to win two platinum Maple Leafs hockey tickets, a night at the Delta Chelsea and dinner for two. The winner was Diana McMillan. This was sponsored by Todd's, Coca Cola and a private donor. This is the third time that Todd's has done this and it has resulted in a total of \$5,440. HHHSF board member Don Popple, executive director Dale Walker and owner of the Independent Steve Todd pull the winning ticket. Jenn Watt Echo staff

Dance into the new year at the Legion

Legion br. 624

Mel Smith

448-3680

The Wilberforce Legion is inviting you and your friends to come out and join us Friday, Dec. 31 and ring in the new year. This annual event will start at 9 p.m. until the wee hours of Jan. 1, 2011. The cost is \$35 per couple and \$18 for a single person. You will dance to the music of Pat Casselman, who I might add, does just a great job.

Jan. 1, 2011 is the president's levy, starting at 1 p.m. Come in and share coffee/tea/eggnog, as well as a light lunch.

We have numerous events each day of every month for your entertainment. There is still time to come in, sit down and enjoy a social time with old friends and meet new ones, in the clubroom.

Our weekly events are:

Every Monday, bid euchre 7 p.m. \$2.

Every Wednesday, open darts 7:30 p.m. \$1.

Every Friday, pool tournament 1 p.m.

Every Saturday, meat draw 2:30 to 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome. There is an early bird draw. If further information is needed call 448-2221.

Lest We Forget: We extend best wishes for a speedy recovery to all who may be ill at this time.

Above mentioned events are just a few of our special events but we have many weekly events to enjoy as well.

Please call to see if anything else is happening or if you wish to rent our banquet hall for meetings, parties, showers just call 448-2221 for assistance.

Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year from the Wilberforce Legion and its membership.

Santa visits Extendicare

West Guilford

Eleanor Cooper

754-2278

No news was forthcoming regarding the film at the centre on Dec. 12, but if someone would care to give me a call, I'd be happy to include in the column all the details, such as name of film, numbers who attended and any added features of the event.

On Friday, our Highlands Concert Band entertained at Extendicare for an hour in the afternoon. Just as we began to play Here Comes Santa Claus, he came into the building, all in red and white with bells jingling! He made the rounds of the audience who were delighted with the occurrence, as was the band.

Happy to hear that Mike Pearsall is home from hospital for Christmas.

Highland Storm PeeWee AE team came home from Huntsville as finalists in their well-balanced team. Greg Crofts remains an enthusiastic player on the team, currently first in their division.

Leon and Alice Jones were high scorers at euchre last Tuesday evening at the centre. Barb Brownsberger and Henk van Nood got the most lone hands and Ginnie Muenzel and Robert McIvor scored lowest.

Coming Events

community calendar

What's happening in the County

Post your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or

to the **UR** Haliburton Highlands Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

• **Bereavement Group** : Minden United Church offers help to anyone who has suffered a recent loss and feels overwhelmed or helpless and alone. If this is you or if you know some one in need of help please call Donna at 286-1237 or Nancy at 286-1305.

• **Zechariah 4:6 Ministries Inc./ Jericho Centre** will be holding a charitable fundraiser, wrapping Christmas gifts at V&S Haliburton in the front entrance every Friday 11am - 7pm and Saturday 10am - 5:00pm in December from Dec. 3 until the 24. Come and help us as we help you.

• **Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes Health and Support Services** is currently recruiting volunteers to assist in the Adult Day Program in the following areas: Bobcaygeon, Fenloen Falls, Omeme, and Burnt River. Volunteers assist staff with programs for socially isolated seniors and people with special needs such as physical or developmental disabilities. Social, recreational and physical Activities are offered in caring, friendly, safe environments. Training Provided. Contact Eileen MacCormack for further information 705-324-7323 x 274 or emaccormack@community-care.on.ca.

• **Ladies Night at the Dorest Recreational Center.** Ladies, join in for an evening of fun at this new monthly activity (to take place the 1st Wednesday of the month) The inaugural Ladies Night stating at 7pm on January 5 has a theme of "Spa Night". The cost is \$5 per person and all ladies are welcome. Call the Rec Center to sign up.

• **December 19th & 26th : Ailsaw Church Christmas Concert.** Starts at 7pm and refreshments served after.

• **December 29th : Red Umbrella Inn ~ Tourism Planning Best Practices ~** Guest speaker John Rae from Whistler - Please RSVP by December 23rd to larrymclarke@sympatico.ca or contact Red Umbrella Inn at 705-489-2462. Cost is \$20 which includes opening coffee/pasteries and Buffet Lunch. Presented in association with: County of Haliburton Economic Development, Tourism and Marketing.

• **December 29th : "Dancing to the Music of the Golden Slipper Era" with the Golden Slipper Live Band.** Wednesday December 29th at 1:30 pm at the Maple Lake Church. Price is \$10 (No Alcohol)

• **December 31st : Don't Miss Harcourt Community Chapel's New Year's Eve Program** starting at 9 pm. This is a party with a difference. It will include Music, Skits, Recitation, Puppets and delicious refreshments. It is a carefully crafted mix of fun and inspiration. This is a free of charge event. It's a great way to see the old year out and the New Year in. For more information call 448-CARE or 448-2273

• **January 13th : Leaders Prayer Breakfast** at the West Guilford Community Center at 8:30am. Join us as we pray for the leaders of our land. Tickets are \$12.50 and can be purchased at one of the following host churches: Lighthouse Pentacostal Church; St. George's Anglican Church; The Bridge Lakeside Baptist Church; Eagle Lake Community Church; West Guilford Baptist Church.

• **January 24th to March 6th : Family Math at Archie Stouffer School.** From 5 -7 pm. For families with children in Junior/Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1. What do bears, bugs and bubbles have in common? They can help your child learn math! Come and join 6 sessions of FUN! Light supper provided. Take home surprises each week. Space is limited so please register by phoning 286-4625 or emailing oeyparented@bellnet.ca.

Events listings are provided **FREE for non-profit groups on a space-available basis.** While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to cthorn@mindentimes.ca or faxed to The Minden Times at 286-4768, emailed to cthorn@mindentimes.ca or brought in to the office.

Please submit events by the Wednesday prior to the requested publication date.
NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands. For more Ongoing Community Events please see the Weekender.

Minor hockey

Novice Storm has superb goaltending

from page 27

Novice team racks up points

The Peppermill Highland Storm Novice A Team continues to rack up points in the Parry Sound Muskoka League standings.

The team sits alone atop their division having only lost a single league game this year.

Playing three games this weekend the Highland Storm came back three times on road on Friday night to tie Huntsville 3-3, soundly defeated Gravenhurst 15-2 at home on Saturday and defeated Bracebridge 2-0 on Sunday.

Every Storm player contributed to the scoring outburst. In what might be a first in Novice competition, all 12 players were on the score sheet in the weekend tilts.

The Storm team has been getting superb goaltending from Nigel Smith who has emerged as the best goaltender in the league.

Defensemen James Alexander, Ethan Glecoff and Ryan Hall with the assistance of swingman Isaac Little have kept the goals against to a league leading 28 goals against in 14 games.

Ethan's puck sense and ability to track down opposing players is a great tandem for defence partner James Alexander who had been Mr. reliable all year long while Ryan has been the steadiest player on the ice game in and game out.

All four Storm defenders are tenacious; their aggressive play have kept the opposing teams on their heels and allowed the offense to move in to high gear averaging just over five goals per game.

Forchecking wingers Mikki Bukta and Paul Turner have worked the corners with diligence doing the dirty work alongside the board to set up their teammates and chipping in their share of goals and assists.

Rookies Alex Little, Tyson Clements and Joe Boice have been very impressive. Joe adds toughness to the team and drives hard to the net. Tyson's magic hands have led to a number of highlight real goals. Alex has become the team's "hound dog" at both ends of the rink, scoring timely goals against the toughest teams.

Smooth skating Isaac Little, in his first year of competitive hockey, has emerged as a versatile player, playing both forward and defence and demonstrating leadership both on and off the ice.

Zach Morissette and Benn MacNaull have led the scoring attack this season. Zach's speed and Benn's nifty moves and hard shot have enabled them to find the back of the twine on a regular basis.

The team has four league games left before playoffs and will have to continue to work hard and improve in the weeks ahead.

Tournament Play

The Peppermill Novice Storm team has played in four tournaments this year advancing to the finals in two tournaments and the semi finals in their other two tournaments.

The team faced tough competition in the Silverstick losing their first match to Oro 3-1 but advanced to the semi-final with a 2-2 tie against a tough Elmvale team.

The Storm was eliminated in the semi-final by a Twin Center losing by a 3-0 score. In their last tournament the Storm advanced to the B Final in the Campbellford Tournament by virtue of a 5-0 victory over Loyalist and a 3-2 loss to Wasaga Beach.

In the B Final the team lost a tough 1-0 overtime game against Norwood. Goaltender Nigel Smith was a very deserving MVP in this final tournament game. All tournament

games have been a great learning experience as the boys are learning what it takes to compete against calibre teams from all parts of the province.

Submitted by Paul Morissette

Bantam AE victorious over Mustangs

A big crowd turned out on a snowy night in Minden to see the Bantam AE Highland Storm take on the Manvers Mustangs.

They were treated to a hotly contested match between the two teams. Stuart Searle got the game off to a raucous start with a devastating open ice body check on one of the Mustangs.

Braden Roberts opened the scoring with a wrap around at 9:30 of the second period.

Hunter Bishop followed with another goal a minute and a half later as he won the face off in the Manvers zone, moved in on the goalie, and then beat him with a quick shot to the top corner.

The chippy play by both teams resulted in a constant flow to the penalty box.

Manvers scored late in the second period on a power play to ensure a tense final 15 minutes.

The third period did not disappoint and was a rough and tumble affair with numerous scrums and much chirping back and forth.

Tyler Casey finished the Mustangs off as he scored from the slot on a nice set-up from Bishop.

The Storm finished the game with a 3-1 victory.

The Bantams faced the Sunderland Wings on Sunday and brought out their A game.

Despite intense pressure by the Storm the first period ended with no scoring. Hunter Bishop scored the first goal at 10:50 of the second to give the Storm the lead.

In the final five minutes of the period they struck for four more goals.

They then scored six in the third to finish with an 11-0 victory. Bishop led the way with an amazing seven goal performance. Singles went to Mac Monk-Cray, Braden Roberts, Curtis Esson, and Stuart Searle. Logan Churko recorded the shutout with a stand out performance from the defensive corps of Loic Muli, Connor Gadway, Angus Sullivan, and Stuart Searle.

The Storms record to date is six wins, three loses, and three ties.

Submitted by Doug Sullivan

Peewees shut out Thunder

Randy's Tree Care and Landscaping Peewee AEs had only one home game this weekend.

It was in Haliburton on Saturday, Dec. 18 against the Port Carling Thunder.

It was a tough game for the Thunder as they could not seem to get it together and spent most of the time in their own end, even when the Storm was short-handed.

The result of the game was a 14-0 win for the Storm. A shut out for goalie Parker Smolen and a hat-trick plus two goals for Alex Wilbee. Other goals go to Max MacNaull (2), Jake Bull (2), Regan Casey (2), Greg Crofts, Mac Rider, and John Morrison. Assists go to Regan Casey (3), Greg Crofts (2), Josh Rowden (3), Tim Burgess, Mitch Billings (3), Mac Rider (3), Alex Wilbee (2), and Jake Bull (2). The Storm only have two more games before the end of the regular season, Tuesday, Jan. 4 in Minden at 7:30 p.m. against Huntsville and Saturday, Jan. 8 in Minden at 2 p.m. against Bracebridge. Playoffs begin about mid January.

The all-star game was played in Port Carling on Sunday, Dec. 19, two of our players attended Max MacNaull and Ethan Cooper.

Two players are chosen by the bench to represent each team, only the goalies from the "A" team go, as there can only be one goalie to represent a division i.e. Atom, Pee-wee etc.

At the writing of this article I do not know the outcome of the all-star game.

Thank you to Matthew Burgess, Pat Casey, Ed Smolen and Larry Hartin for their help this weekend.

Randy's Tree Care and Landscaping Highland Storm Peewee AEs would like to thank all their supporters, families and friends and wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year's Eve!

Submitted by Karena Crofts

Tykes battle Sturgeon Lake

Sunday, Dec. 19, the Highland Storm Tyke team played against the Sturgeon Lake Novice AE team. Great goal scored by Joe Boice, put us on the scoreboard in the first. They answered with a goal.

With a battle Joe Boice answered with another goal. Playing hard the team lost 8-2.

Congratulations to Dylan, Tim, Joe, Cole, Billy, Jake, Simon, Jaylon, Brenden, Tyler, Sterling, Aaron (I hope I didn't miss anyone) for playing a great game!

Next puck drops in Bobcaygeon on Dec. 29 at 7 p.m.

Submitted by Monica Keefer

Peewee As beat Gravenhurst

The Minden Pharmasave Peewee As defeated Gravenhurst 4-1 on Saturday, Dec. 18.

The Minden Pharmasave Peewee As played a great team game on Saturday versus Gravenhurst with lots of accurate passing and great goaltending.

Austin McKay had another superb game in net with a great save on a penalty shot.

Goals were scored by Jaydon Wood, Chase Burden, Ethan Keefer, and Kyle Laverne with one each. Assists went out to Chase Burden, Brenden McKee, Jaydon Wood, Ryan Hill, Matthew Wilbee, Ryan Edwards and Ethan Keefer.

Congratulations to Ryan Hill, Mathew Wilbee, Jaydon Wood and Austin McKay who were selected to represent the Minden Pharmasave Peewee A team at the MPS all-star game in Port Carling on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Submitted by Gord Wood

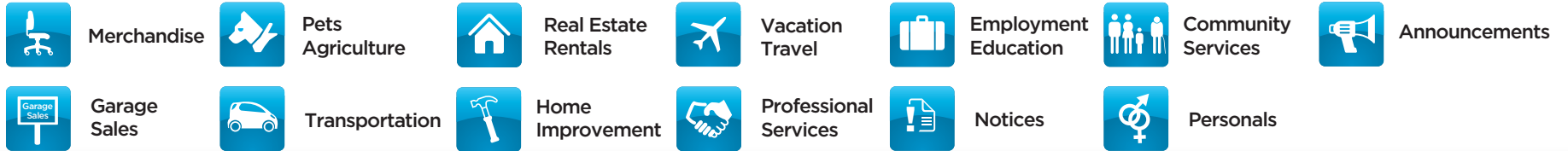


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Coming Events

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Engagements



**Walter & Cheryl Schell
and Gary & Jeannie Davis**
are pleased to announce the
engagement of their children
**Owen Schell &
Jesse Davis**
Wedding to take place
August 2011

In memoriam

CASEY, Ray - In loving memory of a dear Husband, Dad and Grandpa who passed away Dec. 23, 2005.

To special life came a sudden end,
He died as he lived everyone's friend,
Ray lives on in our hearts and minds,
Of his loving family he left behind.

Sadly missed & always remembered by
Lorraine, ReNee, Darryl, Curtis and
Shelby-Lynn, Kenton, April and Summer.

12160376

JOHNSON, Edith - In memory of a special Mom and Grandma who passed away Dec. 25, 2010.

As we love her, so we miss her
In our memory she is dear,
loved, remembered, longed for always
Bringing many a silent tear.

Forever in our hearts
Vicky, Rob, Justin and Alyssa

12160747

MAIN, John - In loving memory of John Main, who passed away Dec. 20, 2009

It has been one year ago today,
Since the lord took you away,
There is no words that we can say,
How much we miss you everyday.

We get talking, someone says your name
No. Life just hasn't been the same.
At times we still cry many tears.

You'll be cherished in our hearts for years.
Forever missed and loved!
Judy, Angie, Jamie, Cody & Zack

12159118



Annie Wood

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Extendicare - Haliburton on Tuesday morning, December 14, 2010 in her 76th year. Beloved wife of Douglas Wood who died on November 13, 2010. Loving mother of Wallace (Virginia) and Callum (Janet) all of Haliburton. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Tegan, Keith and Josh. Dear sister of Mary, Robert, David, Andrew, Alfred and Donald. Predeceased by her sister Rose. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Graveside Service

A Graveside Service will take place at a later date. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy.**

#118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

As expressions of sympathy donations to the Family Council Of Extendicare Haliburton would be appreciated by the family.

HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME



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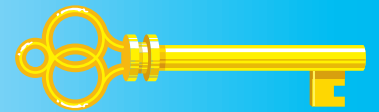
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DRAG LAKE

Private, well treed 13 ac. 1100 ft frontage. West exposure. Impressive views of Red Rock & natural shoreline, sloping to sandy bottom swimming, protected inlet, boat one of the best lakes in the County! Road roughed in.

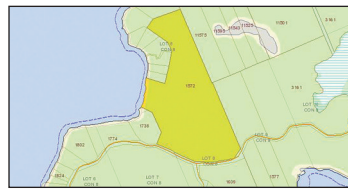
\$679,000



LAKE KASHAGAWIGAMOG

Architecturally designed. Loads of character. 148' sand shoreline, south exposure, extremely private. 2br Bunkie with 3pc. Dbl wet slip boathouse & change house at Water's edge.

\$649,000



DRAG LAKE 82 ACRES

82 magnificent scenic acres with waterfront and private road. Panoramic views west. Prestigious lake and Blueberry Point area.

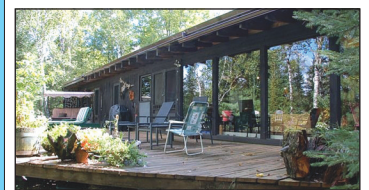
\$625,000



KOSHLONG LAKE

Premiere Haliburton area lake. 10 min to village, 4 season access, S/W exp, rock shelf shoreline, year round 4 season use with cottage flare 4 br 2 bath, single car garage. Level lot, super swimming, boating & fishing.

\$439,900



LITTLE GLAMOR LAKE

With most building materials harvested from the property, this stacked cordwood cottage is truly unique. 5 br, open concept living area. If true 'cottageing' is what you want, see this. 255 ft frtg, 14 ac of rich forest. Ask for more information

\$429,000



SOYERS LAKE

Immaculate cottage plus Bunkie on magnificent 5 lake chain. Big lake view, sand shoreline, west exposure. Cozy pine interior.

\$419,000.



3 AC LOT ON DRAG LAKE

152 ft of magnificent rippled sand beach facing west. Extremely private. Big lake view and great level building site. Call for details.

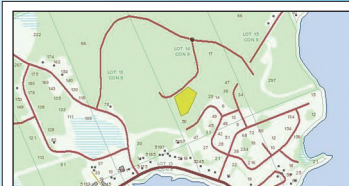
\$389,000



NEW HOME

Sandford Court. 3 br, 2 bath. 1682 sf home & full bsmt. Dbl att grg. 2.68 ac lot. Private. Minutes to town. Taron Warranty. See it now!

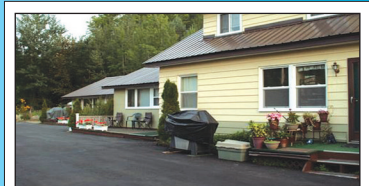
\$339,000



SANDFORD CRT. CUSTOM BUILT

Large 2.01 ac subdivision lot. Raymac Corp. 3br home. 1682sf, full bsmt, Dbl grg. Quality materials & workmanship, Taron Warranty. Ask for specs.

\$334,900



INCOME OPPORTUNITY

4 unit apartment building. Good location. Easy rentals. Immaculate grounds, paved driveway, easy highway access. Live in, rent out, tenants pay the mortgage.

\$299,999



GREEN LAKE

Yr rnd home/cottage on water's edge. Gorgeous sand beach, level lot. Full w/o bsmt. Wraparound deck. Close to golf, store, skiing. 3 lake chain. Additional Backlot included.

\$299,000



LARGE FAMILY HOME

Large home on 28 ac at Cardiff Lake. Full walkout basement ideal for a granny flat. Spacious rooms, closets, European style. Lot of potential with some updating.

\$299,000



STORMY LAKE

The perfect package! 3br cottage on level lot. Big lake view, sand shore. S/W exposure. Private. 2 sheds, Shoreline deck. Firepit. Tidy & ready to go!

\$298,000



SUPER STARTER COTTAGE

2 bedrm cottage on Cardiff Lake water's edge. Clean shoreline, pretty view, Good Yr rnd r road. Open living/kitchen area, 3pc bath, covered verandah.

\$247,000



COUNTY ROAD 21 HOME

Top location between Haliburton & Minden on nearly 5 acres. Privacy, country surroundings with a very well maintained 3BR home plus large garage. Good value for your family home or investment.

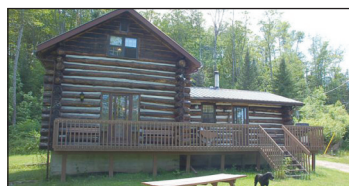
\$239,900



HIGHWAY 35

12 Mile Lake right across the road. Great view, great location for a home based business. Spacious, bright appealing home. Many upgrades & features for any family.

\$234,900



WILBERFORCE AREA

Charming round log home. Private on 24 acres with trails throughout. Country kitchen, main flr Indry, w/o bsmt with lge recroom. Double Car garage.

\$229,000



HALIBURTON HOME

Great location near village & lots of room, outbuildings & potential. Contractor or home based businesses interested? Stone & brick home.

\$199,900



HWY 118, CARNARVON

Totally reno'd 4 br home on level lot. Large eat in kitchen, bright, spacious lr with woodstove & w/o to front deck. Main floor laundry. Single detached garage & carport. Big storage shed & workshop. This turn key home is ideal for a young family or retired couple.

\$159,500



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Linda & Troy